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JOHN BULL

Vol. XV. No. 370 | SATURDAY, JULY 5, 1913. | ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see Page III. of Cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

DO YOU WANT A HOLIDAY ?——?

SEE PAGE 34.

WHEN YOU SHAVE

YOU ROB THE SKIN OF THE NATURAL OIL WHICH IS ITS PROTECTION AGAINST THE WEATHER AND DISEASE.

This is shown by the fact that after shaving the skin is invariably dry and hard, and often cracks and peels, the reason being that the alkali in the shaving soap and the water, often hard, and further the passing of the razor close over the skin, have removed all the natural oil from the surface of the skin. This oil is necessary to the skin's welfare and to protect it from the weather and disease. Besides this, alkali tends to close the outlets of the pores so that the natural oil is blocked within the pores. It is necessary, therefore to use **OATINE CREAM**, which restores to the skin the oil of which it has been robbed, and penetrates the pores, keeping them open and healthy, in order that they may perform their functions properly. Besides this it removes the dirt from the pores, which soap and water cannot reach. Most men prefer to shave before the bath, and then apply **Oatine Cream**, in the form of gentle massage, wiping off any residue after the bath. This leaves a refreshing sense of comfort and freedom from all irritation and soreness, which even the best razors cause.

All soaps and shaving creams are of necessity somewhat alkaline, but **OATINE SHAVING POWDER** contains a minimum amount, and is without question the pleasantest and easiest; and, owing to the ingenious way in which it is put up, the cleanliest method of shaving. **Oatine Shaving Powder** possesses special properties, giving a free, smooth and agreeable lather which does not dry on the face, and which materially assists the razor in giving a clean, close shave with the minimum of discomfort.

THIS TOILET OUTFIT FREE

To introduce the **Oatine Toilet Preparations** the proprietors will send **ABSOLUTELY FREE** to all who send 3d. in ½d. stamps (to cover the cost of postage and packing), the **Toilet Outfit** illustrated herewith, which contains a packet of **Oatine Shaving Powder**, sufficient for three shaves, a box of **Oatine Cream**, and samples of **Oatine Snow, Salve, Tooth Powder, Face Powder**, together with a **2d. Shampoo Powder.**

THE OATINE CO.,

270a, Oatine Buildings, Borough, LONDON, S.E.

SEE PAGE 27.

CRICKET COMPETITION. NO. 4.

SEE PAGE 27.

"JOHN BULL" Entrance Form.

Matches starting on July 14 to July 28.

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

MATCHES.

Gentlemen	v.	Players
Lancashire	v.	Gloucestershire
Derbyshire	v.	Somerset
Northampton	v.	Sussex
Kent	v.	Yorkshire
Notts	v.	Gloucestershire
Hampshire	v.	Essex
Surrey	v.	Middlesex
Kent	v.	Lancashire
Sussex	v.	Northampton
Warwickshire	v.	Derbyshire
Worcestershire	v.	Hampshire
Kent	v.	Middlesex
Essex	v.	Hampshire
Sussex	v.	Lancashire
Yorkshire	v.	Notts
Leicestershire	v.	Derbyshire
Yorkshire	v.	Surrey
Lancashire	v.	Warwickshire
Sussex	v.	Essex
Somerset	v.	Northamptonshire

I enter JOHN BULL Cricket Competition in accordance with the rules announced on page 27, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed.....

Address.....

.....

Entrance Forms must be cut out.

Cut here

Competitor's Guide.

As a guide to competitors we give below **LAST YEAR'S RESULTS** of the matches given on the attached coupon.

Match drawn.
No Match.
Derbyshire won by 133 runs.
Northampton won by 40 runs.
Yorkshire won by an innings and 45 runs.
Gloucester won by one wicket.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Kent won by an innings and 20 runs.
Match drawn.
Warwickshire won by an innings and 22 runs.
Hampshire won by eight wickets.
Middlesex won by 271 runs.
Match drawn.
Match drawn.
Yorkshire won by an innings and 102 runs.
Derbyshire won by 83 runs.
Match abandoned.
Match abandoned.
Match drawn.
Northampton won by 283 runs.

As the competition is one of skill, you are also advised to study the cricket columns and reports given in the daily papers.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XV. No. 370. Week ending Saturday, July 5th, 1913. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All **FINANCIAL, INSURANCE** *and* **SPORTING** *enquiries should be addressed to the* **CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.** *All other communications should be addressed to* **93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.**

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of **"John Bull"** for **JUNE 28th, 1913,** bearing on its Cover the Number **484,286.**

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

High Politics.

The King recently visited Germany—which did not quite please France. So the French President was invited over here, and made more or less fuss of—which did not please Germany. Now the Prince of Wales is going to Germany. And next?

The Lord Chief Justiceship.

Latest accounts of the health of Lord Alverstone are very disquieting and it may be impossible to delay his retirement much longer. By all tradition Sir Rufus Isaacs is entitled to the post—and it will be a blunder if he does not take it. What about Reading? Well, one seat more lost just now will not much matter. After all, the Government has nothing more to do but to wait for the completion of the cycle of the Parliament Act, and then to go out. Whereupon the Act will be repealed! *What* a game it is!

Light from Leicester.

If you would like further light on the fraud of Party, read its press organs on the Leicester election. "Liberal Triumph!" shrieks the *Daily News* (AND *Leader!*); "Another Blow to the Government!" yells the *Telegraph;* "Liberal Victory—Safe Margin of 1,584." sententiously proclaims the *Chronicle;* "Liberal Majority down by 4,000—Verdict on the New Insurance Bill!" roars the *Mail.* Of course, the simple truth is that even if the whole Socialist vote is added to the Liberal, there is still an increase of upwards of a thousand in the Tory poll—which means merely one more illustration of the fact that, so far as the electors take any interest in politics, the "pendulum" is quietly, but not wildly, swinging back to the Unionist side of the clock. But, thank goodness, the hands are nearly at midnight.

Mr. Lyttelton.

The disquieting news to hand as we go to press, respecting Mr. Lyttelton's health, comes as a great shock to his many friends. One of the most courteous and lovable men on the Opposition bench, we never saw him show his teeth but once, and that was during the bogus Chinese Labour agitation. "What I did, I would do again, said he," adding, "and I am not the man to be afraid of my conduct."

Oscar Wilde as Prophet.

From the "Picture of Dorian Gray" (written about 1890):—

> "I suppose you have heard the news, Basil?" said Lord Henry . . .
>
> "No, Harry," answered the artist . . . "Nothing about politics, I hope? They don't interest me. *There is hardly a single person in the House of Commons worth painting—though many of them would be the better for a little white-washing.*"

A Coy Chancellor.

The Labour Party have already propounded a "solution" of the historic "Land problem," and now Lord Lansdowne has stepped into the arena with a re-enunciation of the Unionist position. While these bold protagonists gaily wind their trumpets in the lists, the coy Chancellor continues to sulk, like Achilles, in his tent. The *Daily Chronicle* has been endeavouring to coax the slothful warrior into the open. "The public," we read, "must not be baffled and puzzled by the spectacle of individual leaders putting forward programmes about whose full official authority there are or may be doubts." Dear "public"!—And pray why not? Our contemporary must surely know that these same "unauthorised programmes" are the kites showing which way the political winds do blow—knowledge which wary mariners needs must have ere they put out to sea.

Parliamentary Paul Prys.

The Scottish Local Veto Bill is to enjoy the protection of the Parliament Act. Barring "accidents"—a pregnant proviso—it will become law without the assent of the Peers. We believe the measure to be a thoroughly mischievous one. Like most "temperance" legislation, it proceeds on the vicious principle that a casual majority should be armed with authority to dictate the personal habits of a minority of the people. Such a doctrine is a negation of the first principles of liberty, and should have no place in the policy of a free State.

We Wonder!

We wonder whether the retirement of Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., from the Vice-Chairmanship of the *Citizen* Company has any connection with our recent announcement of the intention on the part of certain trade unionists to test the legality of compulsory levies for the support of that paper.

"Bullets"—Another Twenty Holiday Prizes of £5 each offered this week.

Agitators, Please Note!

It is generally supposed that the Trades Disputes Act frees Trades Unions from liability for conduct which would be actionable if indulged in by other persons or corporations. A recent decision in Mr. Justice Darling's Court indicates that the immunity thus conferred upon labour organisations is much more limited than at first appears. Mr. A. Holmes Dallimore, the well-known bandmaster, brought an action against certain officials of the Amalgamated Musicians Union, who had engaged in "peaceful picketing" outside the Alhambra on the occasion of a concert for which he was responsible. The jury found that the defendants had conspired together to induce the bandsmen to break their contract, and they awarded the plaintiff £350 damages. Mr. Justice Darling had some strong things to say upon the "immoral" tendency of the Trades Disputes Act, and the jury based their decision upon the fact that no "trade dispute" was actually in progress at the time of the occurrence, and that the defendants were therefore amenable to the ordinary law of the land. The net result of their verdict is that the existence of a "trade dispute" within the meaning of the Act must be a question for the jury in any particular case. We imagine this view of the matter will be a novel one to trade unionists, who have hitherto claimed the right to "notify" a "trade dispute" preparatory to active intervention between masters and men.

Hands Off!

Say what you will of the merits of the Welsh Church dispute, no one can deny that the recent Hyde Park demonstration against the Government Bill was a solemn and moving spectacle. When shall we get a Government that will leave people's religion alone—and stick to business? As a result of a Parliamentary session of inordinate length and exceptional activity, the Government are confronted with the savage hostility of Ulster Protestants and the burning resentment of Welsh Anglicans. Soon we are promised a measure of "educational" re-adjustment, on lines which must inevitably stir the smouldering embers of theologic strife in England. It is poor statesmanship which turns law-abiding citizens into rebels and malcontents, "for conscience sake."

Stalemate!

By the way, Mr. Bonar Law asserts that his party will regard it as their "clear duty" to repeal the Welsh Church Bill should it have become law. This is a form of declaration of which the Opposition Leader is particularly fond. Should he attempt to redeem his manifold pledges of repeal, we may look forward to several Parliamentary sessions during which Ministers will be busily engaged in tearing up the Acts of their predecessors. Such a spectacle would add materially to the gaiety of nations, while it would serve as an admirable illustration of the impasse to which we are being rapidly brought by the inherent futility of the Party system.

Even Then.

Sitting as Referee at an inquiry with respect to the Coal Mines Act of 1911, Lord Mersey, formerly Mr. Justice Bigham, remarked that if you want to be quite safe you mustn't go down a coal mine, mustn't travel in a railway train, mustn't go to sea, and in fact you mustn't do anything except sit at home in a chair—although even then the chair might break. There are at least two ways of saying things, and perhaps Lord Mersey may be glad to know the other way of saying what he said—"You are never safe till you die." And even then there's always the risk of fire.

London's *Entente* Decorations.

As Monsieur Poincaré may have wondered where London dug up the decorations which it flung across the streets in his honour, we are delighted to take this, the earliest, opportunity of informing him that they were used by Noah to decorate his ark—Venetian masts, red tie-ups, bunting and all—but where Noah got them from has never been positively determined by the antiquarians. They are brought out to honour all the crowned and uncrowned heads visiting these shores, for marriages, christenings, birthdays, national and international fêtes, and all other occasions of rejoicing—except funerals, as Mr. Dooley would say. When not in use le Lor' Maire wraps them in cotton wool, hides them under his bed, and having said his prayers goes off to sleep with a revolver in each hand, so that if any burglar breaks in it is a hundred to one he will welter in his gore before he gets away. This is all that is known about the London decorations; it is all *we* know, anyhow.

A Stroke of Business.

Among the less canvassed provisions of the Insurance Act was the inauguration of a State endowment for purposes of pathological research. A Medical Research Committee has now been constituted, and its personnel is calculated to inspire general confidence. The field for investigation is an immense one, and we trust the learned medicos will get to work without delay. They will start with an annual subsidy of fifty thousand pounds, and we see no reason why this sum should not be augmented, if only we can be assured of receiving value for our money. The prevention, as distinct from the cure, of disease is a work upon which the nation will spend freely of its substance, once hope and confidence is established; and to this end we trust the Committee will take the taxpayers into their confidence by the issue of periodical reports in terms "understanded of the people."

Postal Pleasantries.

One of our readers is curious to know whether a Post Office clerk is correct in stating that she is under no legal obligation to accept ten shillings' worth of threepenny pieces as a deposit in the Savings Bank. It is as well for this young lady that she did not stand on what she conceived to be her legal rights, as silver is lawful tender up to 40s., though coppers need not be accepted to a greater value than 1s. By-the-bye, this reminds us of the story of the tradesman who asked for five pounds' worth of penny stamps, and upon the clerk refusing to accept coppers, took a single stamp, until the process had been continued a dozen times, when the smart postal employee gave way and offered his tormentor the balance in bulk.

Why Not?

In these days of advanced feminism there is scarce a profession which is free from the intrusions of the fairer sex. A female bookmaker was recently fined at Kingston-on-Thames, and, despite her unfortunate experience, it is probable that the prominence given to the case may lead other ladies to emulate her enterprising example. And why not? Straightness and punctuality are the primary conditions of success in turf commisson business, and the veriest misogynist will be slow to assert that these qualities are the monopoly of the mere man. The presence of sprightly lady "bookies" would add materially to the gaiety of race meetings, while their gentle smiles would mitigate the bitterness of loss. Wherefore, backers and layers, *place aux dames!* What's the odds?

Splendid Gold Nibbed Fountain Pens for "John Bull" readers. See page 2.

Bachelors of Commerce.

The Senate of Queen's University, Belfast, has decided to establish a Faculty of Commerce, thus following the example recently set by the University of Durham. Henceforth "bachelors" and "masters" of commerce will take their place with other graduates among the alumni of these seats of learning. University authorities are too apt to be hidebound by precedent, and we rejoice to find that in two instances at least they have been awakened to the practical requirement of modern life. In these keenly competitive days commerce can no longer be conducted by rule of thumb, and systematic training becomes daily more essential. Moreover, we are speedily outgrowing the stupid and snobbish notion that "business" or "trade" is a calling unbefitting a "gentleman," and men of brains and breeding are looking more and more to the world of business as the legitimate sphere of their activities. We shall expect to find other universities including commercial training in their courses of study, and meanwhile we should like to see the innovation extended downwards. There is no valid reason why elementary commercial instruction should not find a place in the curriculum of every elementary school. We know full well the limitations of theoretic instruction, but it is surely a lamentable thing that, in a business community like ours, thousands of boys should "complete their education" each year and pass into the ranks of commerce without learning the difference between a post-dated "stumer" and a draft on the Bank of England.

Criminal Carelessness.

A five-year-old Reading boy has been drowned in the river while trying to catch tadpoles for a school "nature study" lesson. At the inquest the child's mother declared that her little son had been sent to the river by the teacher, and that it was quite usual for young children to be allowed to wander untended in search of these "nature study" exhibits. Another witness ventured to suggest that children in the local schools had been threatened with punishment should they fail in their search. It is hardly credible that responsible teachers should be so culpably indifferent to the safety of their charges. To send a five-year-old baby to dabble in a dangerous stream reveals a degree of heedlessness which is well-nigh criminal. The Reading Educational Committee should enquire into the matter and, if necessary, take drastic action to recall their employees to a sense of their responsibilities.

Whisper, and I Shall Hear.

At last a grievance under which our gallant bluejackets have suffered for some time has been remedied by the Admiralty. Hitherto they have been obliged to make their blushing claim for the maternity benefit under the Insurance Act in circumstances of painful publicity. They are now to be permitted to approach the officer in charge of this department on the strict q.t., and whisper the glad news in his sympathetic ear. We were not aware that British tars were unduly liable to embarrassment, but apparently they have lately been confessing prospective parenthood with great reluctance. The world has been informed on the highest authority that all the nice girls love a sailor. Perhaps this inherent modesty is the reason why.

Light on the Peabody Trust.

Thus a reader: "The Peabody Trust are forcing upon their tenants in the Whitechapel, Shadwell and Spitalfields estates a miserable 16-candle-power electric light, and are removing the gas-fittings which in many cases give them a 50-power light at less cost." On this showing it is evidently a change for the worse, as to the reason for which we are, like the tenants, in the dark.

Bring Out Your Dead.

The civic fathers of Blackburn are keenly anticipating a visit from the King and Queen, which is to take place this month—but there is a "fly in the ointment." The proposed royal route passes the gates of the cemetery, and nervous councillors are apprehensive lest on the day of pageantry and pomp the quick should be brought into unbefitting contact with the dead. To prohibit funerals on the day in question is thought to be impracticable, while to "hold up" the *cortèges* would of course be unseemly to the last degree. Happily, the Corporation have discovered a way out of the threatened impasse. The King's progress will take place in the afternoon, and the Cemetery Committee now announce "special reduced morning burial fees" for the forenoon of the festal day. It is hoped that the mourners of Blackburn will duly rise to the tempting bait, so that the royal pageant may not be marred by a too insistent reminder of the transience of earthly glories. 'Twere sad if Blackburn's Mayor were to miss the smile of royal favour. Slighter causes have been known to parch the fountain of honour.

A Spanking Idea.

John Bokas, of Cleveland, U.S.A., is a man of courage and resource. Furthermore, he has unwittingly invented a new method of dealing with militant suffragettes. John was arrested on the complaint of his daughter, Mrs. Mary Bravert, twenty-five years old, and a divorcée. This lady, it appeared, had called at her father's house and demanded the return of certain presents she had given her brother. Whereupon her stern parent had drawn her across his knee in the orthodox posture and given her a sound spanking with a lath. She received scant sympathy from Judge Cull, who discharged the accused with the remark:—"There is too much talk nowadays about women's rights." Perhaps if the prison authorities of this country would drop forcible feeding and adopt John Boka's system——!

Sacking the Curate.

As everybody, or nearly everybody, knows, the curate is the servant of the rector, and not infrequently the poodle of the rector's wife; in other words, he is movable at notice. But what many of the people of Keymer, a parish near Hassocks, in Sussex, are asking is, why the Rector has dismissed the Assistant-Curate of Clayton and Keymer? From all we can gather, the Rev. A. H. Liley is a popular young man, as the Rector is a respected old one. The rumour is that the trouble is about a sermon which the Assistant-Curate announced, but did not preach owing to the intervention of the Rector. The parishioners are apparently mystified and not at all reticent in the expression of their regrets, some of them believing that the Rector has too readily lent his ear to spiteful tittle-tattle.

Are We Decadent?

At a recent inquest on the victim of a drowning fatality, it was stated that twenty able-bodied persons had watched the man's frantic struggles, and not one of them had had the pluck to attempt a rescue. As we recently pointed out, such chicken-heartedness is becoming all too common. Time was when the notion of hardihood and physical courage was inseparably associated with the name of Briton, but it would seem that the soft amenities of modern life have done much to destroy in us the stout spirit of our forbears. Reckless courage and contempt of danger made Britain. The spirit which permits grown men to stand shivering on a river bank while a fellow-creature drowns before their eyes will scarcely serve us in the hour of trial.

Worth trying for. £1,000 for Cricket Forecasts. See page 27.

Buried Sans Burial Service.

Evidently the Rev. E. S. Dibben, Vicar of Wicken, in Cambridgeshire, is another of those narrow-minded religious professors who have done and are doing so much to bring contempt on the Church they represent. At the funeral of Miss Moss, a Cambridge barmaid "found drowned" at Upware, the Vicar did not read the burial service at all. At the grave side he read a few verses from the Psalms, recited the Lord's Prayer, and then left the cemetery. What a clergyman omits or supplies on such an occasion—whether he reads parts of the Burial Service, or the whole of it, or some special concoction of his own—can make no earthly or heavenly difference to the dead. His departure from the prescribed form only puts a slight on the memory of the one who has passed to her bourne and hurts those relatives and friends who, whatever her faults, have known her and loved her. The action of the Vicar of Wicken represents the "all uncharitableness" of his Church towards the dead woman, so far as he seeks justification for it in the rubric of the office; it represents the hard, out-of-date letter of the Ecclesiastical law, not the all-embracing charity of the Evangel ringing down "the groves of change" from the Galilean shore. However, the type of religiousness is characteristic of the type of man. In the sense of Christianity, the Rev. E. S. Dibben is not religious at all. He is a mere Ecclesiastical formalist.

Mischievous Leniency.

The Dover Magistrates recently regretted that they could not inflict the lash upon a brute convicted of an indecent outrage upon a girl of 12. We sympathise with their feelings. If ever the use of the lash is justified it is in such cases as these, where men have already sunk to the lowest depth of animalism, and are incapable of further degradation. It would appear, however, that the Justices are more potent in word than in deed, for they contented themselves with imposing the comparatively light penalty of six months' imprisonment instead of sending the prisoner to the Assizes, where he would doubtless have received a much heavier sentence. Sexual degenerates who prey upon innocent children should be kept out of human society for the full period authorised by law, and in the case of a second or subsequent offence there is a strong case for permanent segregation.

Precept and Practice.

We recently commented upon the land taxing activities of Mr. Joseph Fels, expressing our belief that Mr. Fels was not himself a landowner. We are now informed that he does in fact own a considerable area of land, and we regret that we should have been in error on the point. We were, of course, aware of his Socialistic proclivities, and in view of the Socialist hatred of the "land monopoly," we scarcely imagined that one of their number would stoop to pander with the accursed thing. We were wrong—and we regret that, even by implication, we should have accused so versatile a politician of that consistence which is said to be "the virtue of fools."

Perhaps Not!

Speaking recently, Mr. Arthur Stanley, M.P., referred to the payment of Members, declaring that this "tax upon the people" would be removed when the Conservative Party returned to power. We fear this will not be very welcome news to large numbers of prospective candidates; and unless the Tory organisers are careful to see that their men are all well-furnished with this world's goods, we foresee every prospect of a "cave" of impecunious Tory M.P.'s being formed to resist the proposal to abolish the £400 a year.

Bumble and Bunkum at Alness.

About three-quarters of the full-grown population of Alness, a small town in Ross-shire, are stricken with horror and thirst because the licensing Bumbles have taken it into their heads to close the public-houses at 9 on Saturday night—on the application of Chief Constable Finlayson, of Lingwall, who said he couldn't afford to send an extra policeman into the village. The queer thing is that even if he could the extra would have no work to do except hang his tongue out at closing time, for the resident policeman himself, a mon wha' wadna touch a drappie, has only had about half-a-dozen cases in a year. In this remote district, many of the people work so far away that they see the public-house once a week at most, and they bitterly resent the licensing magistrates, whose action seems to be illegal, closing their social meeting-place an hour before the time appointed by law, on the one night in the week when they are free of their toil. And no wonder.

Sickening Sycophancy.

We do not know whether the Prince of Wales reads the *Daily Mail* as well as JOHN BULL, but if he does, he will hardly be grateful to our great contemporary for its recent article apropos of a twenty-mile march of the 1st Company Oxford Section Officers Training Corps: "Cadet Edward, his cap reversed, his uniform thickly covered with dust . . . Plain Cadet Edward is learning the soldier's business with a vengeance . . . It was a triumph of endurance . . . It was then that Cadet Edward reversed his cap to keep the heat off the back of his neck . . . Cadet Edward, who was among the fittest, handed his water bottle to a comrade who had asked him for a 'swig' . . . A half-dozen fell out. It was suggested Cadet Edward should follow suit—a suggestion which met with a determined 'No' . . . and with teeth set in grim silence the company went bravely on. . . " To the old Volunteer, or the young Territorial, this sort of thing nearly approaches the pastime known as leg-pulling.

A Welsh Pastor's Fight.

Our readers will recollect that about two years ago the Rev. Oliver Bowen, B.A., Pastor of Longcross Street Baptist Church in Cardiff, was evicted by the Trustees for the expression of certain views not exactly of the cut-and-dried pattern habitual to the orthodox Baptist mind. We published an Open Letter to Mr. Bowen, advised him and those who believed in the sincerity of his thought and the value of his work to form a church of their own, and added that we should be glad to hear of its success. The result is in the balance-sheet, now before us, of Windsor Place Church, the total income of which, after two years' working, amounts to £1,269. We congratulate Mr. Bowen, his church officers, and the new congregation on their prosperity. May they continue in tolerance and breadth of view for the furtherance of all good things.

Miss Fagge's Resting Place.

Miss E. Newling, of Broadstairs, writes to correct the impression that Miss Fagge, "the last survivor of Florence Nightingale's brave band of nurses," has been "buried in a pauper's grave." Miss Newling tells us it was Miss Fagge's wish to spend the remainder of her days in the workhouse infirmary at Minster, "for she was much attached to the Matron," and when some years ago it was proposed to take her away she pleaded hard to remain. "A fund was raised to supply her with little luxuries, and when she was nearing the end she had everything she fancied." Her body was taken at last from the workhouse in a polished elm coffin and buried in St. Peter's Churchyard, Thanet, "in the same grave in which the remains of her mother lie."

Pretty Summer Blouses given away. See "Mary Bull." On sale Friday.

A Queer Speech.

What did Sir Tudor Walters, M.P., mean, when, in the course of his address to the Association of Education Committees at Westminster, he said "he knew as he looked at the boys in a school that they were not all going to be paid £400 a year as Members of Parliament; he knew they were not all going into the University; he knew that some of them were going to earn an honest living"? At first sight it looks as though the hon. member has been closely inquiring into the characters of his Parliamentary colleagues and gentlemen educated at the Universities and has been somewhat startled by the results. To avoid misunderstanding he had better make haste to explain.

A Judge on Beer.

Here is a judicial pronouncement after our own heart. "When you ask for a bottle of Bass," says Mr. Justice Eve, "you want one, and not somebody else's swipes." Never was a sounder dictum propounded from the seat of judgment. Let all who, in these dog days, are wont to quaff the foaming flagon cry, "A health unto his lordship!" and long may he live to utter such pearls of practical wisdom, to the comfort of a thirsty nation and to the confusion of evil-doers in places where they sell drink.

Marriage and Mathematics.

We deem it our duty to warn those of our young lady readers who hunger for the higher education, that only one in every four certificated Girton and Newnham students ever marries. The remaining three, we presume, never get the chance. We should be interested to read the experiences of the husband of a Tripos winner, if there has ever lived a man brave enough to lead one of those awe-inspiring ladies to the altar.

English as She is Writ.

In the memorandum to the Appelate Jurisdiction Bill in the House of Lords, the announcement is made that Ministers intend to increase the highest Court of Appeal by "two English judges of the finest quality." We have heard tradesmen speak in similar superlative terms of New Zealand mutton—and even shop eggs.

RHYMES OF THE TIMES.

(*Dr. Morris, of the U.S.A., has declared that love should be only secondary in matters of matrimony, and that two healthy similarly proportioned persons should get married, whether they are in love or not.*)

I do not love you, Claribel—
That is a secondary matter—
Cupid o'er me has cast no spell,
Which, it appears, is just as well—
I leave such madness to the Hatter!
But after what I lately read,
I ask you plainly, "Will you wed?"

That you are healthy, I am sure—
Your eyes are bright, your cheeks are rosy—
Your blood, I am convinced, is pure,
Your teeth look likely to endure,
Your figure's what one might call "cosy"!
And though I fear we'd ne'er agree,
I see you are cut out for me.

A further reason I'll submit—
For I can see you're full of caution—
Why we in nuptial bonds should knit:
Not only are we awfully fit,
But also equal in proportion.
Say "Yes!"—although our hearts say "Nay";
The Eugenists we must obey.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["*Taking the Biscuit*" *has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.*]

For advertising in the "Glasgow News" that a certain paint "works so well and dries so nicely that you can put it ON YOURSELF *and make a good job,"*
THE B. & F. PAINT & VARNISH CO.
(43, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its account of a recent Ascot meeting that: "For the first time for many years there was an ALTERATION *in the time of running the races. Formerly there was an interval of an* HOUR *prior to the decision of the Gold Cup, but on the present occasion* 60 MINUTES *was allowed between the first and second events,"*
THE NOTTINGHAM EVENING POST
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For issuing a notice stating that a certain child "has been absent from school 321 TIMES *during the last* 3 WEEKS,"
MR. J. M. WYNNE
(Secretary & Manager to Dudley Education Committee)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in the "Surrey Comet": "Dancing next Wednesday is the LAST *dance at this Rink: 7.30—12* DURING THE SUMMER,"
THE PROPRIETORS OF THE COUNTY RINK,
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES,
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For stating in an advertisement offering an inn for sale: "Good WATER *close to back door:* OWNER BORN IN IT,"
"CHARLOTTE DAVIES (Owner)"
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in the Programme of the Royal Irish Constabulary Tournament his "Stock of POLICE BOOTS LARGEST IN IRELAND,"
MR. C. HEATHER (15 and 16, Arran Quay)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For issuing a hand-bill announcing fast excursions to "the ANGLO-BRITISH *Exhibition,"*
THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing that a sale "commences Monday, JUNE 30. *From that date until the* END OF THE MONTH *everything will be reduced,"*
MESSRS. DICKINS & JONES
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in the "Throne": "Pigmy Ponies, 30 inches high, AS SUPPLIED TO Royalty, KANGAROOS, CROWNED CRANES, etc.,
MR. E A. JAMRACH
(180, St. George Street, East)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in some "Scout Yarns," published in "The Scout" that: "Capt. Wilson called for volunteers among the crew of the 'Antelope,' and the whole lot at once asked to go. TEN *were selected, and went* EACH *in* ONE *of the Pelew war canoes, of which there were some* TWO HUNDRED,"
LIEUT.-GEN. SIR ROBERT BADEN-POWELL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED.

We give 2s. 6d. to the sender of every "Biscuit" published. Should the same item be forwarded by several competitors, preference will be given to the one whose letter is first opened. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue. Envelopes must be addressed to "The Biscuit Editor."

Let "Bullets" pay for your holidays. See page 34.

ANOTHER ADVENTURESS EXPOSED.

AN UNREPORTED POLICE COURT CASE—AND ITS SEQUEL.

It is a thousand pities that a cinematograph operator did not have his machine fixed in Oxford Street on the morning of June 24th, for he would have had a picture which, with the addition of a little letterpress, would have set the whole of Great Britain laughing. Briefly, the incident was as follows:—A comparatively young and stylishly-dressed "lady" made her way out of Selfridge's establishment into the busy Oxford Street thoroughfare, when she was suddenly confronted by a poorly-dressed slim little woman, who exclaimed in a loud voice, "You wicked woman, pay me my wages!" The "lady" made desperate efforts to get away, but the "woman" stuck to her like a leech. A crowd gathered and listened eagerly to an interesting story; the *finale* being the snatching off of the "lady's" hat, coupled with the inevitable catastrophe of a roll of false hair dropping on to the pavement. Pressed by the crowd to say whether she owed the woman money, the "lady" said "No!" "Then why don't you give her in charge?" asked a bystander. "She dare not," suggested the hat-snatcher. Here was a direct challenge, and also a trap which the "lady" dropped into. She gave the "woman" into custody. Subsequently the case came before the Marlborough Street Magistrate, and the "woman" was bound over to keep the peace, and a small fine imposed. The charge was not reported in the press, so, as the facts are interesting, we give them.

The prosecutrix calls herself Mrs. Rex Powel Du Rand, and she gave as her address 44, Farnaby Road, Shortlands, Bromley, Kent. The prisoner told the Magistrate that she was a married woman with a child, which was ill and required nourishment. She and her husband had been in the service of the prosecutrix as nurse and gardener, respectively, for a period of twelve months, and they had been discharged without payment of wages amounting to £30. She had obtained judgment in the County Court, but could not recover from the fine lady because she had no goods to distrain upon. The prosecutrix did not deny the debt, but said that her solicitor was dealing with it. She further stated that she had paid eight guineas for the hat which had been damaged, whereupon the prisoner suggested to the Magistrate that he should ask Mrs. Rex Powel Du Rand to produce the receipt. So much for the hitherto unchronicled Police Court case.

Rex Powel Du Rand. Courtland E. Du Rand.

THE SEQUEL.

The person who calls herself Mrs. Rex Powel Du Rand is an adventuress. She is fairly well known in Cardiff—but not by the name she now sails under. Some twelve months ago she managed to get an introduction to a City gentleman of the highest integrity. In course of conversation she asked if he knew of a lady who would take charge of her two daughters, mentioning at the same time that she was going to America on business. Eventually this City man introduced a lady of good birth and education, and subsequently she was appointed chaperon and housekeeper at a salary of £100 a year. At this period the woman Rex was on the look out for a furnished country residence, and the new chaperon introduced her to her sister, a lady of title. The outcome of the introduction was that Mrs. Rex managed to get the titled lady's furnished house in Surrey on a lease. The strange part of the business is that the adventuress obtained the lease without furnishing any references. Once in these well-appointed premises she discharged the old servants and took on a fresh staff—two of them being the woman who was charged at Marlborough Street Police Court, and her husband. The next move of Mrs. Rex was to visit a motor firm. Without much difficulty she managed to get a first-class car. With this elegant conveyance to go shopping in, and the country residence as an address, she contrived to fleece certain of the leading establishments in the West End. It must not be imagined, though, that these firms were impressed with the car and the address alone. She gave solicitors' names as references, and the conduct of some of them appears to require explanation. A host of local tradespeople also came in for attention, and they are now all crying aloud for their money. Without giving any reason whatever, she 'phoned from town one day to her servants telling them to clear out, but, not having been paid their wages, they refused to go. She then attempted to evict them. By this time the motor-car firm had become aware of the state of affairs and had placed a bailiff in possession. Then the owner of the house came on the scene. Shortly after, proceedings were taken, and judgment obtained for the full amount of the debt—but, of course, it is impossible to get blood out of a stone. Other West End firms are contemplating action. We have been able to trace one hotel proprietor who has been let in to the extent of £200.

THE REX SYNDICATE.

There is no doubt that Rex has had large sums of money from different people in this country during the past few years, on the strength of certain copper mines in America in which she is said to be largely interested, and in these ventures she has been backed by a solicitor, and a Yankee calling himself Courtland E. DuRand. One of the concerns is called the Rex Syndicate, and in a prospectus now before us we are given a wonderful account of a copper mine—the property of the company—situated 125 miles north-east of Bulti and Anconda, Montana, U.S.A. Du Rand when at home is supposed to live at Delphine, Montana.

The Acting Treasurer and Secretary, we are told, is J. B. Pruyn, of 2, Rector Street, New York. Another enterprise of this Du Rand-Rex Powel combination is known as the Belt Mountains Rand. In an explanatory pamphlet we are told of the property:

> In the olden days the tribes camped in this neighbourhood killing buffalo to supply their winter camp with beef, and ranging their ponies on the nutritious grasses of the meadows and bench lands. The instinct of the buffalo and the cunning of the Indian are safer guides than the white man's thermometer for protecting cattle and horses from the storms of the winter.
>
> The buffaloes have gone, but the foothills still afford shelter for numerous deer, elk, and small game. Bears and wolves are common. Four varieties of the former species were recently seen at one time on the ranch. The streams abound in trout, and in spite of the fact that they have been introduced into the country in the last fifteen years, many taken are of great size.

Then we are entertained to illustrations of big bags of game which would make the mouth of any sportsman water. A new city—Du Rand City—has, we are told, sprung up, and within a year the railway will be running through it, and so on—a most beautiful picture is drawn to entice speculators. And it is by such rosy tales that the lady who goes about wearing eight guinea hats, but bilking her servants, has managed to draw thousands for herself. But the game is now up, and, knowing that we are on her track, she is fighting with her back to the wall. Madame Rex recently sent us the following unsolicited letter, addressed from the offices of one of her solicitors, 20, Bucklersbury, E.C.:—

> *You can send your Special Commissioner direct to me. I will give him all the information he wants, and it may save you doing an injustice. You boast of fair play—practise a little for once in your life.*
>
> REX POWEL DU RAND.

We have no time, however, to listen to fairy tales; we prefer to rely upon the evidence of people of repute. Tradesmen should beware of this Powel Du Rand.

A PLEA FOR JUSTICE.

MAIMED MARINER'S MANIFOLD MISFORTUNES.

An Italian sailor sends us details of his hard case, which we commend to the sympathetic consideration of "the powers that be."

In April, 1911, our correspondent, who was then working as an able seaman, met with an accident on board, and lost his right thumb. To a sailor such an injury amounts almost to complete disablement, robbing him entirely of his gripping power. The injured man was awarded compensation at the rate of sixteen shillings a week, which was regularly paid for about five months. Payments then ceased, and the matter was taken to the Manchester County Court, where the award was judicially extended for a further period of six weeks. Meanwhile, the man strove hard to find employment, but without success. He was in communication with the Shipping Federation, but the Federation does not employ seamen direct, and the most they could do was to refer him to certain ship-masters, all of whom declined to employ a man with a maimed right hand, fearing that his disability might involve risk of further injury to himself and danger to his shipmates. Reduced thus to utter helplessness, the poor fellow was constrained to make application for a permanent compensation award, and his claim was entered for hearing in July last.

Five days before the date of trial, the applicant received an offer of work from the Shipping Federation. He was to go to London, there to embark as an able seaman upon the liner *Gotha Castle*. But a Transport Workers' Strike was in progress at this time. No sooner had the unfortunate man reached London than he learned of the dispute and realised with some bitterness that he had been forced into the rôle of the "blackleg" imported for strike-breaking purposes. Being a foreigner and an ex-union man, he was unwilling to brave the fury of the strikers. By selling the greater part of his clothes, he was able to go back to Newport, intending to state his case to the County Court judge. It was too late. The news of his unwillingness to engage in "blackleg" labour had gone before him, and his application for a permanent award had been struck out, on the ground of his alleged "refusal to work." He was ordered to pay the costs of his fruitless application, which, in his penniless condition, was a sheer impossibility.

A month later he obtained work on a Bristol vessel by the simple expedient of keeping his injured hand in his pocket until he was "signed on." As soon as his hurt was discovered there was "the Devil to pay." He was more than once in imminent peril through his "gripless" hand.

Another compensation application followed. It was met by a threat from the shipowners' solicitors to enforce the costs awarded against the applicant on the occasion of his earlier appeal to the Court.

Rather than risk legal process and possible imprisonment, our correspondent withdrew his claim, and is thus once more left in helpless destitution.

The Seamen's and Firemen's Union declare that they can do nothing until our correspondent has discharged the costs awarded against him. The Italian Consul at Newport asserts that his government provides no funds for such a purpose. Has the unhappy man no remedy? True he is "only a foreigner," but justice is justice the wide world o'er!

THE SOLDIER BOY'S BEST FRIEND.

HOW SHE IS SOMETIMES IMPOSED UPON.

A soldier—we are very much tempted to give his name and regiment—writes to his mother, a widow with small means, asking for money, on the ground that "all my pay, with the exception of one shilling a week, has been stopped by the military authorities on account of my horse bolting and dashing through a shop window." Come, Tommy, that won't do! It is true the idea of the window-smashing quadruped is new, but the Tommy of years ago used to tell an equally unlikely story about losing a sentry-box and having to pay for it. This yarn worked very well for a time with unduly fond mothers, until one day a cold, calculating father wrote the Commanding Officer asking the price of the lost sentry-box.

COUNTRY SHALLOWS.

FURTHER FOLLIES OF THE GREAT UNPAID.

Who are the enlightened potentates who administer law and execute justice in the town of Market Rasen, Lincolnshire?

Mr. W. H. Kitching was summoned to the Market Rasen Court on May 6th last for having allowed a van to be used without having his name and address painted upon it as required by law. As a matter of fact, the vehicle was not his property at all, but belonged to another Mr. Kitching, who lives at Lincoln. The defendant, when before the Magistrates, was anxious to clear the matter up, but for some reason or other the Justices refused to hear his explanation, and in the twinkling of an eye a fine of twenty-five shillings was imposed.

Next day Mr. Kitching saw the real owner of the van, and told him what had occurred.

This gentleman, realising that his namesake had been summoned in his stead, at once wrote to the Market Rasen Superintendent of Police, explaining the circumstances and asking that he might be allowed to accept responsibility for the fine. In reply he was informed that the matter had passed out of the hands of the police, and that he had better consult a solicitor.

Mr. Kitching has since written to the Clerk of the Market Rasen Justices, and has apparently been informed by this official that his only method of obtaining redress is to appeal to Quarter Sessions against the decision of the Justices. To remedy a stupid police blunder, of which all parties are now cognisant, and concerning which there is no dispute, he must lodge a formal appeal and brief counsel to argue at Quarter Sessions!

Mr. Kitching very properly refuses to be a party to any such egregious farce. He demands that the police should acknowledge their error, and that the magistrates should themselves take steps to put matters right. In such a simple case of mistaken identity the justices, surely, have power to "amend the record." The real culprit has no desire to shirk liability. Justice might be done in a thrice, but for the senseless obstinacy of the Bench.

PERILOUS PITY.

JUDGE'S COMPASSION FOR WELL-BORN SWINDLER.

We are rarely disposed to complain when a judge exercises his prerogative of mercy, but there are doubtless circumstances in which undue leniency is calculated to operate as a direct incitement to crime. A case at the recent Norwich Assizes is directly in point. A barrister, named Nicholas, alias Henry Nixon, was indicted for certain peculiarly cunning frauds, his defalcations amounting in all to something over £500. Nixon at first pleaded "not guilty," but subsequently exchanged this plea for one of "guilty," and made a clean breast of the whole business. It transpired that a Gorleston insurance clerk had been heartlessly robbed by the prisoner of £250—probably the whole of his savings.

Few judges would have discerned any circumstances of extenuation in such a case. Mr. Justice Lawrence, however, bound the prisoner over in his own recognisances under the First Offenders Act, remarking that he felt justified in adopting this merciful course "in view of the prisoner's past history." For this "history," which was thus to cover a multitude of sins, we must refer to the evidence of Nixon's family solicitor, who urged that his client was formerly in affluent circumstances but had met with financial reverses. Misfortune is rarely accepted as an excuse for crime, and we are therefore tempted to assume that the learned judge was perhaps unduly influenced by the fact that the prisoner was a person of good family and a member of his own learned profession.

The practice of looking to a prisoner's past history is in itself a perfectly proper one, but it should be of universal and humane application. We trust Mr. Justice Lawrence will apply it with equal clemency when next he is confronted from the dock by some poor, battered wreck of humanity whose antecedents point to the gutter, and whose whole career has been a losing fight with vicious heredity and crushing circumstance.

Make sure of your "John Bull" Pen. Start to getone at once.

FIVE YEARS' GAOL FOR ANOTHER'S CRIME.

TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN'S DRAMATIC TALE.

"After having been twice condemned unheard—the victim of a great violation of justice, caused by two men of like appearance, both at the same system of robbery, and untrue police evidence—I now relate the true history of the case for which I am suffering most wrongfully. Heaven be my witness, and I never see the outside of a prison again, to this day I am unacquainted even of the locality the crime was committed in—so help me God!" Thus starts a document which has come into our hands. It is the personal narrative of Convict I. 490, who, in the name of John Mack, was sentenced at the Middlesex Sessions in August, 1908, to six years' penal servitude for an alleged burglary at Tottenham. The man's vivid tale was penned by himself during his confinement in Portland Gaol. At the very outset, he solemnly declares his entire innocence of the offence of which he was convicted and for which he has suffered the heavy penalty of the law. Standing alone, such a plea would be of small moment, but it is backed by startling evidence, which, to say the least, warrants the re-opening of the case and an exhaustive inquiry into all the facts.

Mack was arrested on the 22nd of July, 1908. He was informed by the police that he "answered the description" of a man "wanted" for a number of burglaries in various parts of London. Next morning he was taken into the prison yard in company with other suspects and there "identified" by a person named Claret, as the man who had committed a burglary at Tottenham on the 9th of May of that year—very nearly three months before. At the same time, Claret picked out a convict, William James, whom he declared to have been Mack's accomplice in the crime and against whom several similar charges were pending. On the evidence of Claret, both men were formally charged. A day or two later, they were brought before the Wood Green magistrates and thence committed for trial to the Middlesex Sessions.

"JUST QUARREL," BUT UNARMED.

Mack was undefended at the Sessions. He was but a labouring man and had, moreover, entire confidence in his ability to rebut the charges levelled against him. He had an accurate recollection of his movements on the day of the alleged burglary, and was prepared with a complete alibi. He had no means of foreseeing the embarrassing situation in which he was shortly to be placed. At the police court hearing, the prisoner James had stoutly maintained his innocence. On his arraignment at the Sessions he pleaded "not guilty." But he was a notorious criminal awaiting sentence for other offences. At the last moment—on the advice of his counsel—he altered his plea to one of "guilty" rather than waste the time and try the temper of the Court. By this swift *volte face* on the part of his fellow prisoner, Mack found himself confronting the notorious Sir Ralph Littler as the "identified" accomplice of a self-confessed felon.

He was tried alone; although not the actual prosecutor, the man Claret was the principal witness for the prosecution. He swore that James and Mack had called at his house on the evening of the burglary to enquire for a domestic servant, and had then entered the house of the prosecutor, a few doors away. He had there and then jotted down a description of the two men, and—three months later—had identified them at the Somers Town Police Station. Claret's somewhat inconclusive statements were corroborated—by his wife, and by no other living soul. A police officer gave evidence of arrest, stating that he had often seen the two prisoners together—which Mack strenuously denied. Weak in itself to the point of break-down, this case for the prosecution was, of course, immensely strengthened by James's plea of guilt.

A STRONG ALIBI.

Now for the defence. The burglary was alleged to have taken place between 8 and 9 o'clock on the evening of May 9th and was thus legally "housebreaking," though for convenience we have used the common term. Three perfectly respectable men—acquaintances of the prisoner—swore that they parted from him at 8.15 that evening, at a point—the "Eagle" at Camden Town—eight miles from the scene of the crime. Their statements were uncontradicted, and, if true, they constituted a perfect alibi. On cross-examination each of these witnesses disclaimed acquaintance with James. Statements as to prisoner's character concluded the evidence.

Sir Ralph Littler summed up to the jury. The very words have a flavour of doom. Bitter memories of that merciless man rankle in the hearts of thousands. Suffice it that in this case his observations left the jury no option but to convict—"the prisoner is a man of experience"; "he was not at work", "you see, gentlemen of the jury, he does not call his companion, the other prisoner as witness, neither does he give evidence himself in support of his alibi." The explanation of this last alleged sign of guilt is that Mack had, in despair of a fair trial before Sir Ralph, given up the unequal struggle for the time being, as he shared the popular delusion that the Criminal Appeal Act, then just in force, entitled him to claim another hearing. Mack had never in his life been charged with serious crime, but he was, nevertheless, brutally sentenced to six years' penal servitude, to be followed by three years' police supervision. At the same sessions the savage Littler distributed 32 years' penal servitude among five men. One poor wretch, whose record was almost clean, got five years at a stroke. He had kicked a policeman!

LEAVE TO APPEAL REFUSED.

The case went to the Court of Criminal Appeal. Mack was now represented by counsel, who urged that the evidence for the prosecution was too slender, and that Sir Ralph Littler had been unduly biased against the prisoner. It was all to no purpose. While admitting that Sir Ralph's observations to the jury had been "out of place," the Judges held that there had been sufficient evidence to justify conviction, and leave to appeal was refused. The Court declined to hear further evidence.

Here comes the most remarkable part of Mack's story. Pending his appeal, he was confined in Wormwood Scrubs. While there he learned from his fellow prisoners that there was a man in the gaol—White, by name—who might throw light upon the circumstances of the Tottenham burglary for which he, Mack, stood convicted. It was arranged that the Prison Chaplain should interview this prisoner—a direct interview being forbidden by the rules—and endeavour to enlist his aid on Mack's behalf. The Chaplain saw White, who expressed his willingness to go before the Court of Criminal Appeal and tell all he knew—even to his own detriment. But, as we have seen, the Court refused leave to appeal and White was never heard.

A STARTLING CONFESSION.

What if he had been allowed to tell his startling story? He has since confessed that it was he—Henry White, Convict 1184 of Portland Prison—who committed the burglary at Tottenham for which Mack stands condemned. He is willing to swear to his guilt in any Court in England and abide by the consequences. He declares that his accomplice was a man named Hazel, and that neither Mack nor James had part or lot in the crime. The arrest of the man James on a charge to which, for tactical reasons, he weakly pleaded guilty, is explained by the fact that he bears a striking physical resemblance to White. The two men are of the same age, height, complexion, weight and build, and might easily pass for each other. Mack had never seen White till his arrival in prison, and White was unable to recognise Mack.

Such is the dramatic story of Convict I. 490. The facts have been presented to the Home Secretary—so far, without result. Attempts by the prisoner to enlist outside sympathy have been sternly repressed by the prison authorities. He has now been released on ticket of leave, and is thus free to pursue his demand for justice. There is an overwhelming case for searching inquiry. We call upon the Home Office to act vigorously and without delay.

BATEY'S BALDERDASH.

MORE INSURANCE BENEFITS.

The offices of the Insurance Committee for the City of London are situated at 5, Chancery Lane, where is to be found Mr. Howard Batey, the Clerk. A poor and somewhat illiterate person, suffering from consumption, and wishing to get into one of the havens of rest supposed to be created by the Act, wrote to the Committee. In the course of a few weeks he received the following reply, signed by Mr. Batey, and as neither he nor friends he consulted were sure that they understood the document, he has forwarded it to us, with the request that we would interpret it :—

> With reference to your communication concerning your application for Sanitorium Benefit under the National Insurance Act, 1911, I am directed to inform you that the Committee have no power to supply articles of ordinary food, etc., to insured persons who are in an impecunious condition. I may say, however, that the Committee will at any time be prepared to give careful consideration to any suggestion which the practitioner on the panel who is administering treatment in your case may submit with regard to the form of treatment suitable for you or as to any accessories he desires to prescribe as part of or directly ancillary to the treatment which you are at present receiving.
>
> If he desires to prescribe such accessories it will be necessary for him to advise the Committee as to the quantity of each accessory he considers necessary for your daily personal use.

To our untutored friend we forwarded the following translation :—

> In reply to your application, I am directed to inform you that the Insurance Committee have no power to supply articles of ordinary food, but they are prepared to give careful consideration to any suggestions from your panel doctor.

We would like to put it to Mr. Batey that such words as "ancillary" and "practitioner" may be in place in Chancery Lane, but are almost like a foreign tongue to people in the New Cut or Whitechapel.

BLIND ALLEYS AND BLIND COUNCILLORS.

THE PLIGHT OF THE SCARBOROUGH COBBLE BOYS.

Though we are willing to appreciate a certain amount of holy zeal for the abolition of "blind-alley" occupations, we cannot agree that the Scarborough Town Council have found one in the calling of the pleasure-cobble boys. We think we are correct in saying that hundreds of seafaring men in "the Queen of Watering Places"—to be correct, *once* the Queen of Watering Places—have commenced their careers in pleasure boats. Many of them tell us that two years' work on one of these cobbles is an excellent apprenticeship in the management of a small boat, and this may mean the saving of their own and other people's lives later on. Indeed, among the seafaring population of Scarborough we can hear only one opinion; it is unanimously agreed that if a lad intends to follow the calling of the sea he loses nothing and gains a great deal from his experience as help on a pleasure cobble.

Having regard to this consensus of opinion, it is astonishing that the Town Council should have arrived at the decision to exclude from this work all youths under the age of 21, and we are not surprised at the indignation of the fisherfolk who resent, and in our view rightly resent, the Town Council using their powers to deprive youths with a taste for the life of the sea not only of the means of helping their parents to maintain them but of the means of valuable training. The Council would do well to heed the strong feeling of the seafarers of Scarborough.

We are informed that the new regulations will have a disastrous effect in many Scarborough homes, where the earnings of the pleasure-boat apprentices make all the difference between just-enough and starvation. Several of the members of the Town Council who have been most zealous in the perpetration of this injustice themselves employ youths in occupations more "blind alley" in their character than that against which they have so freely fulminated. It would have been more fitting if they had closed their own blind-alleys before depriving a lot of poor but deserving folk of honest livelihood in an occupation which demands training if it is to be followed with safety and success.

A HEINOUS CRIME.

RAMSGATE VETERAN'S SORRY LAPSE.

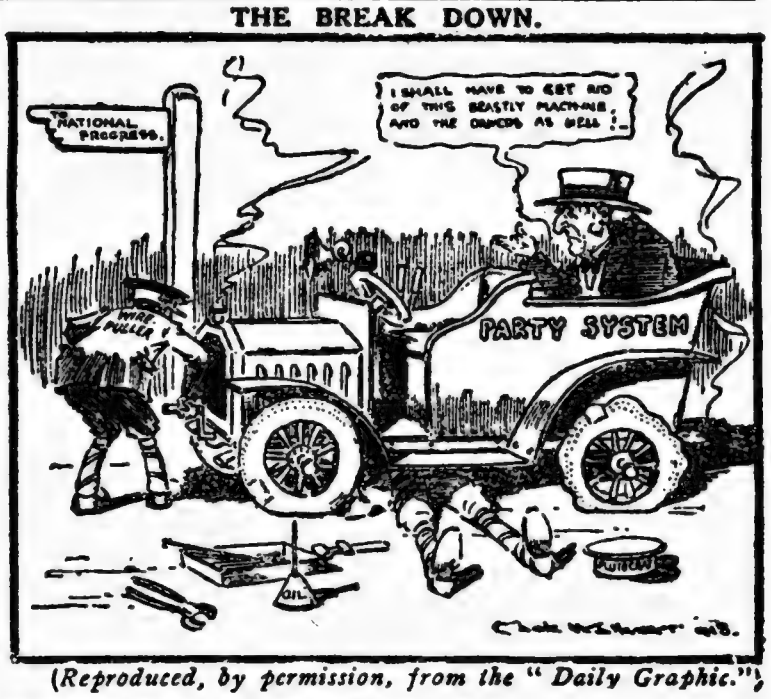
We understand that the Ramsgate Borough Police are a vigilant and resourceful body of men. But here and there still remain the smouldering embers of lawlessness. One disquieting case has recently been brought to our notice. The culprit is an old man of 84 years of age, who has hitherto borne an irreproachable character. He is an ex-lifeboatman, and has taken part in many a gallant rescue off the treacherous Ramsgate sands. On his breast he wears a silver medal—whereby hangs a stirring tale. The Spanish brig *Samaritan* had foundered in a driving blizzard. Three lifeboats put out from the English coast. The first two were dashed to pieces and sucked up by the boiling sea. The third—the Ramsgate boat—weathered the fierce gale, reached the stranded brig, and bore the crew back to the safety of the Ramsgate harbour. The man now troubling the borough's peace was a member of that gallant lifeboat crew. The medal which he wears is a mark of the respectful gratitude of the Spanish people, and was graciously bestowed upon him by their Queen. What, then, has brought him so low?

We print the plain and sordid truth, not in any carping or self-righteous spirit, but in sorrow, and as a warning to others who may be tempted to depart from the strait and narrow way. This old man, once the pride of his native borough and the object of royal favour, has been seen to stand in the broad light of day upon the Ramsgate front and to gaze at the heavens through a telescope. Nor is this all—would that we might so soon complete the tale of his backsliding! He was further seen to permit other base persons to gaze through his horrid instrument at a charge of one penny per peep.

Let none tremble for the respectability of Ramsgate's immaculate front. No more will profane peepings desecrate the sacred shore. No longer will this rascal be permitted to pocket the pence of the shameless aiders and abettors of his crimes. Ramsgate has bye-laws for such as he, and a mighty Bench of stern, unbending justices who will enforce these potent edicts though the heavens fall. Should he prove obdurate there are gyves and a prison house where lawless rebels may be taught that a bye-law is a bye-law, and a Ramsgate bye-law an imperial decree, to violate which is to sin past human tolerance. Others may seize his pitch at their peril. For him at least there shall be neither pity nor compassion.

It is argued by some that the fellow has deserved well of his day and generation, that the chance pence of idle trippers are but a scant reward for a life of honest toil graced by many a deed of heroism and valour. Some have urged that he is old and feeble, and must now starve but for the precarious charity of a cold world. But enough of such prattling sophistry. He has broken Ramsgate's bye-law, which is to flout High Heaven's decree. Happy wight, if he be indeed permitted to substitute slow starvation for a more violent end. Why cumbereth he the ground?

THE BREAK DOWN.



(Reproduced, by permission, from the "Daily Graphic.")

£50 for a lady. A "Mauve" Coupon wanted. See page 27.

A DANIEL COME TO JUDGMENT.

SCOTCH MAGISTRATE'S DOUBLE SHUFFLE.

Magistrates who adjudicate in licensing cases should remember that any sentence they impose upon a licence-holder will probably carry far-reaching consequences, quite apart from the actual legal penalty. In these circumstances it is the duty of justices to scrutinise severely every scrap of evidence, and to require the police to substantiate their charges beyond shadow of doubt.

We are by no means satisfied that justice has been done in a recent Scotch case. William Watt, of the Station Hotel, Blairgowrie, Perthshire, was summoned to the local police court for supplying two pints of beer to two ploughmen who, it was alleged, were drunk. On their way to the Station Hotel the two men had stopped outside another public-house in the town and there engaged in conversation with the landlord. A lively altercation ensued between ploughmen and publican, as a result of which the latter refused to admit the men to his housef or to serve them with liquor.

POUNCING POLICEMEN.

These happenings were witnessed by two policemen, who followed the men to the Station Hotel and into the bar. From the fact that they had been "refused" at the other house, the officers appear to have concluded that both men were drunk. Instead, however, of warning the proprietor, they permitted him to serve the men with beer, and then pounced upon him.

Before the Magistrates, the police called two witnesses—one the proprietor of the first public-house, who had refused to admit the men, and the other a customer in the Station Hotel bar, whom they had hastily impressed at the time of the alleged offence. Contrary to the expectations of the police, the publican declared that both men were dead sober. His quarrel with them was of a personal nature, and had no reference to their condition. But for certain remarks by which he felt aggrieved, he would have had no hesitation in serving both men with drink. It was thus clear that the police pursuit had originated in a complete misunderstanding, but for which they would never have dreamt of shadowing the ploughmen at all.

The other witness procured by the police was of opinion that the men were the worse for drink, but his evidence was nullified by that of four other men who were present in the bar, all of whom agreed with both publicans that the men were perfectly sober.

Was ever a flimsier case advanced in support of a serious charge against a respectable hotel-keeper? But for the refuted testimony of a single casual witness, the case for the prosecution had entirely collapsed. The principal witness for the police had gone over to the defence. The accused licensee was clearly entitled to the benefit of such overwhelming doubt.

SPLITTING THE DIFFERENCE

The presiding Magistrate, however, appears to have been convinced of the defendant's guilt, perhaps by some species of intuition—never, surely, by the evidence before him. In his wisdom he found that one of the ploughmen was drunk and the other sober. We presume this decision was reached on the time-honoured principle of "splitting the difference." The hotel-keeper was convicted and fined.

Observe the import of this remarkable judgment. In finding that only one man was drunk, the learned Magistrate held that the police were mistaken in a material point. Encouraged by this discovery, he proceeded to accept their bare testimony (eked out by that of a discredited witness) as good ground for finding the other man to have been drunk and for convicting the hotel-keeper.

Can it be that in the mind of the learned Justice the end justified the means?

Even the Jesuits, to whose reputed system of logic the Magistrate apparently resorted, would have scorned such a shuffling compromise. They were at least thorough in their convictions, and—despite the imputation under which they have for so long laboured—would not have stooped to so unsatisfactory and doubtful an expedient for getting over a difficulty.

BETWEEN TWO STOOLS.

WHERE HUMBLE TRADERS FALL TO THE GROUND.

Broken windows are among the lesser evils traceable to the high speed of the modern motor 'bus. Suburban shop-keepers whose premises are situated on 'bus routes, complain that their glass fronts are in daily peril from flying stones. Apparently, the omnibus companies have so far succeeded in evading liability for such damage. A widow who keeps a small sweet shop in Ferdinand Street, Chalk Farm, London, is among the latest sufferers. She assures us that the 'buses dash through this thoroughfare at a terrific speed, scattering flints and gravel in all directions. Quite recently, four windows, her own among them, were broken in a single day. Estimating the damage to the premises at eleven shillings, she applied to the St. Pancras Borough Council for redress. For reply she received a lengthy letter from the Borough Engineer, containing quite a scientific dissertation upon the very obvious cause of the disaster, but disclaiming all responsibility in the following terms:—

> This may be a matter in respect of which you might make a claim upon the London General Omnibus Company, but it is clearly not a case in which any blame attaches to this Council.

Thus encouraged, the woman wrote to the Omnibus Company enclosing a copy of the letter received from the Council's Engineer. By return of post she was honoured with a communication in these terms:—

> Although we regret the occurrence, the Company cannot accept any responsibility, and must in turn refer you back to the Borough Council.

We do not suggest that this somewhat Gilbertian situation is the result of collusion between the two corporations, but such cross denials of liability are obviously to their mutual advantage in postponing the day of reckoning. Who is in fact liable for the damage? For the Omnibus Company it would doubtless be argued that the accident was due to the presence of loose stones in the road, and that the state of the highway is a matter for the municipality. The Council, on the other hand, might urge, not unfairly, that the stones would do no damage but for the scattering wheels of the motor monster. We fancy the Courts would take the latter view. Some day the matter will doubtless be legally determined. Meanwhile, it is hard that poor traders should be compelled to shoulder the whole burden of the damage, without hope of redress, and deprived of any guarantee against further loss from a similar cause. A lessened speed for motor 'buses in narrow business thoroughfares would doubtless do much to avoid the mischief.

A PEDDLING POINT.

MIDLAND MAGISTRATES' DOUBTFUL DECISION.

It is perhaps not generally known that a person who "hawks" his labour is required to take out a licence from the police in the same way as an ordinary pedlar of wares. Thus itinerant scissor grinders, chair menders, and other strolling operatives are pedlars within the meaning of the Act, and must be furnished with a licence on pain of fine.

A recent case, at the Wellingborough Police Court, raises a point of some interest. A saw-sharpener was prosecuted for "peddling" without a licence. It was his practice to visit certain butchers' shops in the town to sharpen knives and saws. It appeared that he had never touted for work, but had a regular connection with the local butchers, never entering their shops except by invitation. Was he a pedlar?

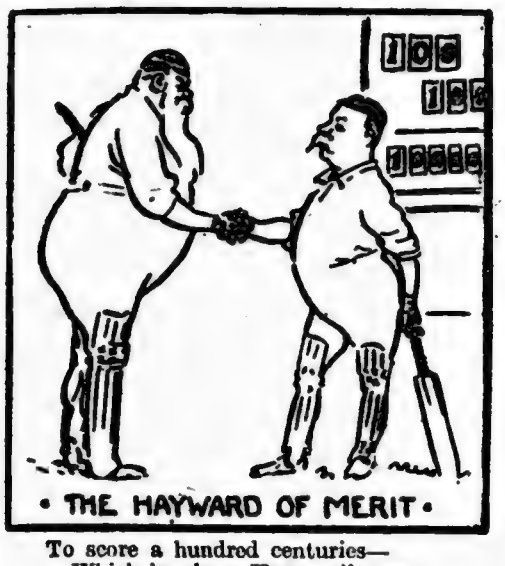
The Magistrates held that he was, and fined him six shillings and costs. We question the legality of their decision. To constitute such "peddling" of labour as requires a licence there must surely be general canvassing for work—touting at large—else every hired charwoman and jobbing carpenter would be brought within the category.

The Pedlars' Act was passed to mitigate the nuisance of unchecked solicitation by casual workers and salesmen. It was never intended to apply to specific services rendered by request.

"Bullets"—Another Twenty Holiday Prizes of £5 each offered this week.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."



To score a hundred centuries—
Which has been Hayward's case—
Fills no one with more glad surprise
Than the great veteran Grace.

The President has been and gone,
But he has left behind
A deeper cordial *entente*
Than yet can be divined.

Ex-tennis-champions withdraw
Defeated from the court;
Subservient to Nature's law—
Age bows to youth in sport.

First Lord in fact as well as name
Winston has proved to be,
And mentions with more pride than shame
The days he's been at sea.

"'Twas roses, roses all the way"
(Each bloom a charity),
Upon Queen Alexandra's Day—
And fairest rose was she!

The rotten state of Rotten Row
Is causing much remark.
Do tramps and shabby turnouts show
What's coming to the Park?

THE RECEIPT OF CUSTOM.

CAVALIER COLLECTOR'S CONSCIENCELESS CLAIM.

The high and mighty collector of the King's Taxes is apt to carry things with a heavy hand. A reader informs us that an Inland Revenue official recently called at his residence to demand payment of House Duty upon premises which he quitted as long ago as November last. With the collector was another fellow, presumably a bailiff, and the two men impertinently stalked into the sitting-room and proceeded to "make themselves at home." Our correspondent was out at the time, but his mother at once tendered the intruders four shillings, the amount of the claim being three-and-tenpence. The collector, "full of sound and fury," refused to accept this sum, declaring somewhat cryptically that "he was not going to be 'cheeked' for nothing," and demanding payment of three shillings over and above the amount of the duty. The men then proceeded to make an inventory of the furniture in the room, endorsing upon it a formal demand for "three-and-tenpence duty and three shillings costs." They then took their leave.

An hour or two later our correspondent's sister went to the tax office and tendered six-and-tenpence. The good lady had not reckoned with the mushroom growth of official "costs." By this time the claim had increased to nine-and-fourpence, and the collector, whose demeanour throughout was of a most insolent and hectoring character, coolly intimated that he would "put on" another five shillings if the amount was not paid within three hours.

At 4 p.m. our correspondent himself visited the tax office, and was graciously permitted to discharge his liability on payment of nine-and-fourpence.

There should surely be some reasonable check upon the excessive accumulation of "costs" in such cases. At present everything appears to depend upon the caprice of petty officials. These gentry should, moreover, be compelled to keep a civil tongue.

L'AMENDE HONORABLE.

MANCHESTER FIRM DOES THE STRAIGHT THING.

In a recent article entitled "Rickety Registration," we referred to the hard case of a Derbyshire reader who had sent £1 13s. 5d. to the Barnett Wallpaper Company, of Manchester—cash with order—and was subsequently informed by the firm that the money "must have been lost in transit," as they had never received it. We are now happy to state that the Company have forwarded our correspondent a remittance for the whole of the amount lost, considering, in the words of the Secretary, that "a moral obligation is of vastly more importance than any mere legal liability." It will be remembered that we imputed no sort of impropriety to the firm, and we gladly give prominence to their considerate action.

Splendid Gold Nibbed Fountain Pens for "John Bull" readers. See page 29.

A DUBIOUS DEPOSIT.

AGENT ACTS ON ANCIENT ADAGE.

Messrs. W. Hartley & Sons, Limited, whose notepaper describes them as "Reporters and Advertising Contractors" and who conduct "Brett's Theatrical, Music Hall, Picture Hall and Pantomime Agency" are very busy advertising for agents and collecting from them cash deposits of £50. We doubt, however, the wisdom of those who part with their money. Hartley & Son have not been long in existence, being registered as recently as 29th March last. The Company was formed to take over the business carried on by Harry Ratcliffe Green, and its Registered Office is in the Agreement stated to be at 6, Market Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Upon their paper this address has, however, been somewhat glorified by the prefix of "Brett's Chambers," though the addition in parentheses of the words "Third Floor" somewhat dulls the gilt. The capital authorised is £2,000 in one pound shares, of which Green took 200 as the purchase price of the business. The latest return lodged at Somerset House shows, however, that only £450 has been subscribed in cash, significantly divided into five blocks of 50 shares, and two of 100. It would, therefore, seem that the £50 is required not so much as a deposit as an investment.

Although the lodging with the Company of this sum is, apparently, to quote the language of Mr. Green in a letter to an applicant, qualifying for "a three years' contract, commencing at £156 with commission, expenses, and other inducements," with the further attraction that "the position should be worth at least £300 to an intelligent man by the end of the first 12 months," at least one possessor of £50 has considered his bird in hand worth the several promised ones in the bush. The causes of the hesitancy of the particular individual we have in mind—a Manchester man—are several. For one thing, the Company is, apparently, not on the telephone, although its notepaper bears the telegraphic address "Critic, Newcastle-on-Tyne." That would seemingly more fittingly belong to the "G. Brett, the Critic at the Play," whose name and description also appear upon the heading. A search of the Directory did not disclose to him the Company's name among the list of advertising contractors, whilst a further disquieting feature was that, although Mr. Green first signed as "Chief Clerk," in his next letter he had become "Secretary." After being informed that the Directors had accepted our correspondent's application, Green (who had invited him to attend at the office a week later, "ready to complete arrangements"—which, of course, meant the handing over of the money) when asked for a copy of the agreement so that it might be considered in the meantime, and invited to furnish the names of any Manchester firms with whom the Company has business—although there were still five days yet to elapse before the date of the proposed appointment, replied that it was impossible to forward the copy, as it was "not yet typed out." Doubtless feeling that this excuse was weak, he added that in any event he could not "send it from this office without the consent of the Directors." The Manchester man responded, pointing out that it was hardly fair to expect him to journey to Newcastle when he was ignorant of the terms of the proposed Agreement, and cannily adding that one of the clauses in it would have to provide that the £50 was deposited in a Bank, to be refunded to him when he left the Company, or to go to them only after legal proof of such misconduct as would entitle them to keep it. Green at once replied that the Company were not prepared to consider his application further, the "references and enquiries to hand not being to their satisfaction"!

We think our friend is well out of the business. For one thing, we cannot anticipate for it any great measure of prosperity. Investigation shows that the versatile Mr. Green, besides being "Chief Clerk" and "Secretary," is also one of the two Directors. It is hardly likely that a person, holding such offices, who is yet so timid as to require the formal consent of his fellow member of the Board for so customary and natural a thing as the sending to a proposed signatory of a copy of an agreement, can bring the enterprise to success—especially on so small a cash capital.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCLIII.

[In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

A SAD LIVERPOOL CASE.

A Liverpool reader having brought to our notice what appeared to be an extremely sad case of distress, we immediately wrote to the Vice-Chairman of the John Bull League in that city, asked him to investigate, and if found to be genuine, to give immediate relief. Here is his report:—

Mrs. ——— was married 20 years ago to a sergeant in the Army, by whom she had two children (girl aged 19, boy 13). The first husband died in 1899, and in 1903 she married her second—an Army shoeing smith—by whom she also had two children (girl 8, boy 6).

The second husband died about four years ago, after six months' illness, since which time this woman has had a hard struggle to provide for her family. The eldest girl, being delicate, has been of very little assistance as a wage-earner, and Mrs. ——— herself is seriously handicapped through diseased kidneys and varicose veins in her legs.

She was stationed for some years in India, but what little savings both her husbands had been able to accumulate soon went owing to continued illness in the family.

I understand that Mrs. ——— acted as midwife whilst in India, but when the new laws came into effect she had to give this up, not being certificated.

She has also acted as still-room maid in several large establishments, and would be glad to take up any work of the kind.

She is an Irish Catholic, and I have interviewed the local priest (who has rendered them good practical help), and he states that she is in every way deserving of sympathy.

I have personally seen the home, which is practically empty, but both it and the children are kept very tidy under the exceedingly difficult circumstances.

The eldest girl has just started work as a machinist, but only gets 1s. 6d. a day and her dinners.

The eldest boy has just entered the Mersey Dock Offices, and receives 5s. weekly. The position was obtained for him through the kind offices of a local Masonic lodge, of which craft the boy's father was a member.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CCLI.—"Fag," 5s.; "Try Again," 1d.; "Locomotion Bob," 2s.; J. R., 2s.; "Buddhist," 2s. 6d.; H. S., 2s.; G. R., 2s. 6d.; H. L. G. (Simonstown), 2s.; "Yeoman," 1s.; E. M. H., 4d.; "Jack and Molly," 6d.; W., 10s.; M. T., 10s.; A. J. S., 2s. 6d.; "Don," 6d.; J. B., 2s.; J. H., 1s.; "A Widow's Mite," 2s. 6d.; A. W. L., 5s.; R. W. C., 5s.

CCLII.—"Ivy Mary," 5s.; A. A., 2s.; A. W. L., 5s. R. W. C., 5s.; J. H. N., 2s. 6d.

We have this week apportioned £10 from the JOHN BULL Derby Sweepstake Charity Fund as follows:—CCXLIII., £1; CCXLIV., £1; CCXLVIII., £1; CCLI., £5; and £1 each to the poor people whose cases have been published in our issue of June 28th, under the headings of "The Mother of the Regiment" and "Married off the Strength."

Mr. G. Ellams, the winner of the £500 prize in our 35th "Bullets" Competition, has kindly sent us £3, which we have much pleasure in distributing equally between Nos. CCXLVIII. CCLI., and CCLII.

COLLECTING BOXES.

LONDON.—Mr. W. R. Perry, "Blue Posts," Tottenham Ct. Rd., 1s. 2½d.; Mr. A. J. Blowes, "The Colville," King's Rd., Chelsea, 2s. 8d.; Mr. F. L. Williams, 56, Nimrod Rd., Streatham, 1s. 6d.; Mr. A. Heep, "Denbigh Arms," Denbigh Place, 2s. 4½d.; Mr. A. Rowe, "Cowley Arms," Addison Place, Brixton Rd., 8s. 6d.; Messrs. Bridge and Co., 48, Brompton Rd., 2s. 8d.; Mr. E. H. Gilbert, "The Crown," High St., Kensington, 1s.; Mr. F. Costa, West End Hotel, Coventry St., W., 3s. 11d.

PLYMOUTH.—Mr. A. Davis, Caprera Athletic Club, 2s. 10½d.

BIRMINGHAM.—Mr. J. Lowe, "Baltic Inn," Hope St., 1s. 6d.

BRISTOL.—Mrs. Burrows, "Hope and Anchor," Clifton Place, Stapleton Rd., 1s. 3d.; Mr. G. E. Skinner, "Prince of Wales," Montpelier, 1s. 4½d.

BRIGHTON.—Mr. J. H. Olliver, "Bridge Inn," New England, 1s. 5d.; Mr. G. J. Gray, "Britannia Inn," 5, Cavendish St., 8d.

Total £1 12s. 6d., of which we have allocated £1 to CCLI., and 12s. 6d. to CCLII.

Worth trying for. £1,000 for Cricket Forecasts. See page 27.

IS BALZAC A CLASSIC?

WHAT CLEMENT SHORTER SAYS.

It is a matter of common knowledge that the recent announcement of an edition of that great French author, Balzac, in its complete and unexpurgated form caused a considerable stir in certain quarters.

Fortunately, however, the publication is now an accomplished fact. For though the prurient-minded may see wrong where none is meant—and Balzac certainly did write of nature as he found it—it would have been a thousand pities if the public had been deprived of this its first chance of reading Balzac as he meant to be read.

The Napoleon of Literature.

For Balzac was to literature what Napoleon was to arms—a man of giant brain who saw all life, all character, and all events as material to be turned into stories, and who did not believe that there were any events that could not be told with advantage. And so his novels make their appeal to all.

Balzac's Best Novels.

And all those who realise this will hasten to take advantage of the offer of his Best Novels in 14 volumes, specially selected by that famous Balzacian, Mr. Clement Shorter, Editor of the *Sphere*.

Clement Shorter's Choice.

Cousine Bette.	The Lily of the Valley
Cousin Pons	The Illustrious Gaudissart.
La Duchesse de Langeais.	The Village Curé.
The House of the Cat and Racket.	The Country Doctor.
Gobseck.	The Magic Skin.
Old Goriot.	The Unknown Masterpiece.
Eugenie Grandet.	

What Clement Shorter says—

"Something has been said of the fact that the publishers advertise that their Balzac is 'unexpurgated.' This is of the utmost importance. The charge that a translator 'betrays' is justified where there is a prurient attempt to modify and alter phrases in the interests of Mrs. Grundy. Nothing can justify that. When face to face with a great classic, we want the book as near as possible as the author presented it."

What "Truth" says:—

"I can testify not only to the excellence of translation, but also to the charm of the type, binding, paper, and especially of the exquisite illustrations by famous French artists. I should mention also that they are absolutely unexpurgated, and are translated with fidelity, avoiding the coarseness which is so marked in the works of less skilful translators, although quite foreign to the spirit of Balzac himself. Considered in every light, I am unable to conceive a more satisfactory edition of the great novelist's work."

FREE BOOKLET.

To the Caxton Publishing Co., Ltd.,
54, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me, free of charge, and without any obligation on my part, detailed prospectus, containing interesting information about Balzac, his life, and his work, and telling how the fourteen volumes are delivered for a first payment of 2s. 6d., the balance being paid by a few small monthly payments.

Name .....
(Send this form or a postcard.)

Address .....

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THE BOOK OF THE MOTOR CAR.

An Indispensable Work for Every Owner or Driver.

FIRST PAYMENT 1/6 ONLY.

The time is past when it required an expert engineer to drive a car, but a working knowledge of the various parts of a car and their functions is still essential to really successful driving, and the importance of this work to every owner and driver of a motor-car, cycle, or cycle-car, can hardly be over-estimated.

The Book of the Motor-Car is the first really comprehensive work on motor-cars, motor-cycles, and cycle-cars ever published. By the careful study of its chapters the rawest amateur can learn the principles upon which his car works, but at the same time it is so comprehensive and so striking in its detail that even the skilled expert will find it a book of enthralling interest and extreme utility, while the practical motorist will find it quite indispensable. It should be as much a part of the equipment of a garage as an oil-can or a lifting-jack.

Driving and Repairs.

The Book is full of invaluable information on all problems of driving and repairing a car, instructions being given for all possible difficulties in language that can be understood by the most unmechanical mind. The following are a few of the subjects dealt with:—

Cylinders, valves of all classes, different types of engines, carburetters, ignition, silencers, gears and clutches, radiators, cooling systems, brakes, lubrication, lighting systems, artillery and wire wheels, tyres, fuels and how to use them (including all the new petrol substitutes), tools and repair appliances, etc., etc.

Cycle-Cars and Motor-Cycles.

The work pays full attention to motor-cycles and cycle-cars, full details and instruction being given for all those points wherein they must be treated differently from the more powerful motor-car. In these and all other respects the Book of the Motor-Car is absolutely up-to-date, and in a line with the very latest discoveries in motor engineering. It is profusely illustrated with full-page plates, drawings in plan section and elevation, diagrams and photographs, as well as a series of sectional movable models in colour showing in detail the actual working parts of a car.

Charles Jarrott, Esq. (the Famous Motorist), writes:—

"I think it invaluable to the student and also to anyone who is desirous of familiarising himself with modern constructional practice. As a book of reference it will be of great value to me, and I think everyone who is keenly interested in their car should have a copy."

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.....

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT BUSINESS?

AN ARTICLE FOR ALL IN BUSINESS.

To the thoughtless, the easy-going, or the very young man this question may at first glance seem an insult.

Such a one would answer in an off-hand sort of way: "Why, I am in Business—I am a Business man. I know all about Business—or I ought to do so."

Aye, there's the rub! He *ought to do*. But does he?

Let me put the same question to you.

How much do you know about Business? Unless you are a rare and brilliant exception, you will probaby own, after a mortifying self-examination, that it is precious little indeed of sound Business knowledge that you really know—confidently and surely enough to bank on.

Yet without this Business knowledge your chances of doing well for yourself in the business world are very poor ones indeed. With it, there is

No Position You Cannot Aspire to.

Now what do you know about Business?

For instance, do you understand book-keeping thoroughly? Could you draw up a balance-sheet? Do you understand a profit and loss account? Do you know when recovery of book debts is barred?

Do you know the law as it specially affects your own particular trade, business or calling? Do you know anything at all about manufacturing? Do you know how to figure depreciations? How to check leakage? Do you understand time-keeping systems?

Do you know much about the Income Tax? Do you know Company Law? Do you know the cost of the formation of a Company? The methods of amalgamation? Do you understand the conversion of shares into stock? Do you understand Compulsory Winding-up? Do you know all about County Court business, Judgments, etc.?

Do you know how to start a Business? How to organise its departments, build up its reputation, collect its debts, rake in its profits?

Yet these matters are Business Knowledge. And if you want to make money in business you must either know them or know where you can get authoritative and complete and up-to-date information concerning them. What are you to do? You must get the "Business Encyclopædia."

You cannot do without it, whether you are an ambitious young man on the threshold of your commercial life, or a mature business man who dreads that he may be crowded out of the Business fight owing to the present-day stress of competition.

TWO OPINIONS.

Messrs. J. S. FRY & SONS, Ltd., Bristol:
"We strongly advise all commercial men to purchase the work. It is THE work par excellence for every business man to possess."

SIR C. W. MACARA:
"It contains a vast amount of information of the utmost value to business men, and I have already found it most useful."

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54, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me, free of charge, a copy of the book describing the "Business Encyclopædia," and how it may be obtained for a first payment of 1s. 6d., the balance to be paid by small monthly payments.

Name .....
(Send this form or a postcard.)

Address .....

.....

THE COUNTRY CALLED BLACK.

By Norman Tiptaft.

My Dear Man in the Street,—I beseech you think for a few moments on an exceeding pressing problem.

You may not know the Black Country. I do. I live on its borders. It is a district worse than Manchester, more hopeless than the Potteries, more revolting than Whitechapel. Many of its workers subsist in hovels such as no decent man would house his horse, much less his motor car. It is a centre of ignorance and slavery, a place where the great god Industrialism reigns supreme, and where human life is sacrificed daily on his altars.

Such and much more is the Black Country, and there is a strike there. It is not much of a strike. The agitation is not that the whole district shall be burnt down, that its dirt and its degradation shall cease from the land—nothing like that. It is merely that the men who work in this inferno as labourers—who do the hard, dirty, dangerous task, whose lives are shortened, whose health is shattered—all for us—that these men shall in future receive the princely sum for working the souls out of them of 23s. a week. You see they have been receiving less, much less. Quite a lot have only had 18s. Hardly any have had more than 21s.

Some years ago a few clever gentlemen told us that you could only just provide the bare necessities of life for a family, on 23s. 4d. per week, and prices have advanced 15 per cent. since then.

To get those necessities you had to expend the money to the best possible advantage. You needed, in fact, a university education to do it—and these people have not had a university education. They are ignorant and unwise. They are incompetent to do the necessary mathematical work to enable them to act on Mr. Micawber's maxim: "Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen nineteen six, result—happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds ought and six, result—misery." They have not devoted all their evenings to the continuation school. By the time they have finished their work and had something to eat, they are either too tired or it is too late for such forms of culture. They drink beer, they back horses, they do things they ought not to do, and they leave undone things they ought to do. They are no more perfect than you or I.

They are not asking for enough to live on, they are merely asking to be allowed to exist, that is all.

Maybe they are foolish to strike. Maybe they should lie down in their little hovels and die quietly, but then they have women folk and children. They think the little extra they ask will make it better for those women and those children. Some of them have seen a vision of the land afar off where no woman sweats her life out for bread, and where no little child goes hungry, but these are only few. The bulk are striking just because on their present wages they cannot live, and, strange as it may seem to you and me, they want to.

One would think a problem like this strike to be an urgent thing, a thing that the Government of a country would surely settle. It is not well for a land that its people starve, that their physique be impoverished. Many a man has gone from the Black Country to fight the battles of the Empire, many a one has come no more home.

The days draw nigh when England will require strong men and healthy women, and in those days not all the dividends of capital will save it.

Yet Parliament babbles of Welsh Disestablishment, of Marconi scandals, of coming "Education" Bills. Never a word of the men and women of the Black Country, never a word of the things that really matter.

It is difficult to write quietly and calmly when people are starving, and when the executive of the country could, if it only would, end it.

I have tried to do so, I have tried to make you see the thing that is in front of your eyes—the people perish and the cursed Party system of misgovernment, which we call Parliament, will not lift a finger to save them.

Will you ever, O, Man in the Street, demand attention to these things, or will you hand over the destinies of the country to a wiser and more enlightened race? Either *you will settle these things* or the Empire on which the sun has never yet set will go down at last into the long night.

Pretty Summer Blouses given away.

HOW I COMMENCED.

LIFE STORIES OF EMINENT MEN AND WOMEN.

By "Retlaw."

BART KENNEDY.

How I commenced.

Commenced.

It is a big story. How I commenced.

When I commenced I was put through it. Through it.

I was born at Leeds. Of all places on God's earth. I was born at Leeds. Leeds. Where the roaring, rushing, thundering engines come from. Some of them. Not all. But some.

My parents were Irish.

Irish.

And they put me through it.

That is how I commenced. Being put through it. At Leeds. And then at Manchester.

I went to work at six. Six years. Not o'clock. A half-timer. In a mill. At six. Think of it, O purple Peers and pearly Peeresses. At six. A half-timer. In a mill. At six.

I worked in mills and machine shops in Manchester till I was twenty. In Manchester. Where it rains. Rains. Slaving in mills and machine shops from six till twenty. In Manchester. That is how they put me through it.

Then I went to sea.

Ah; the deep, salt, savage, shameless sea. I went to it. Before the mast. Sometimes I went before the master.

I then went to America. On the tramp. I tramped in America. Tramp, tramp. In America I learned the divine ecstasy of tramping. And the Indians. I lived with them. The Indians. I fought with them. Indians. Lived and fought with them. In America.

And all the time I was thinking. Thinking. All the time.

That is how I was put through it.

That is how I commenced.

Klondyke.

Before the gold rush.

I was there. In Klondyke. Mining. Mining in Klondyke. Before the rush. That puts a man through it. Klondyke.

The stage. To strut and mouth and act before gaping thousands. And sing. In opera. I did it. After Klondyke.

Eggs are good. Some of them. They are good to eat. So are cabbages. But not on the stage. I know. I went through it. On the stage. In opera.

Drifting.

It is pleasant. Drifting.

I drifted. About the world. Watching. Observing. Listening. And thinking. That puts a man through it. It is pleasant. But it puts him through it.

I drifted. Into writing. Like this. Jumpy. Disconnected. Staccato writing. I drifted into it. I apologize. And I have made my readers go through it.

Shams.

I wrote about them. Exposed them. Shams.

Realities.

I described them. Praised them.

Shams.

The House of Commons.

I called it the Gas House. I put the Gas House through it. In the *View*.

It was a paper. The *View*.

All good things die. It died.

The *View*.

No matter. I put the Gas House through it. And Winston. And George. And Asquith. I put them all through it.

That is how I commenced. Now I am going to do deeds. With the pen. For I have been thinking.

And I am going to put you all through it.

All.

Through it.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

SEE PAGE iii. OF COVER.

"See Mary Bull." On sale Friday.

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20 Queen Anne Design Mahogany Chairs, each	1	5	0
5 Extending Dining Tables	1	8	6
10 Turkey Design Axminster Carpets	3	3	0
4 4ft. 6in. Oak Sideboards	3	15	0
Set of 8 Chairs, 6 Small and 2 Carving Chairs	4	17	6
6 Chesterfields in Art Tapestry	3	17	6
5ft. Mahogany Queen Anne Design Sideboard	7	19	6
Very well-upholstered Chesterfield and 2 Very Comfortable Easy Chairs (worth double)	8	15	0
Very Handsome Carved Oak Sideboard, with Bevelled Plate-Glass Back, Oxydized Fittings	8	17	6
Set of 6 Dining Chairs and 2 Very Handsome Carving Chairs to Match Sideboard	11	11	0
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Oak Roll Top Desk	5	5	0
50 Office Chairs	0	18	6
20 Very Comfortable Easy Chairs	1	8	6
5 Oak Bureau Bookcases	5	10	0
Mahogany Bookcase with 6 Shelves	6	6	0
Handsome Queen Anne Design Oak Sideboard			
6 Chairs and 2 Arm Chairs			
5ft. by 3ft. 6in. Queen Anne Design Dining Table (complete)	18	18	0
Large-size Chesterfield and 2 Very Comfortable Easy Chairs in Real Leather. An Absolute Bargain	11	10	0
4 Bookcases	1	5	0
7ft. Mahogany Pedestal Cupboard	10	10	0
5ft. Bow Front Sideboard, Queen Anne Design	9	10	0
6ft. Louis XV. Design Sideboard, Exquisite Design	17	10	0

Bedroom Furniture (continued)—

	£	s.	d.
2 6ft. Sheraton Design Bedroom Suites	25	0	0
6ft. Louis XV. Design Bedroom Suite, exquisite design	31	10	0
3ft. 6in. Carved Light Oak Dressing Table and Washstand	7	15	0
A pair of Inlaid Sheraton Design Bedsteads	2	18	6
2 Convertible Bed-Couches	3	3	0
Very fine 6ft. 6in. Sheraton Bedroom Suite, comprising Wardrobe with 2 Plate Glass Mirrors to Wardrobe, Dressing Chest, 4ft. 6in. wide, with large Mirror at back, 4ft. Washstand with Cupboards under Marble Top and Back, 3 Chairs, Pedestal Cupboard and Towel Rail	63	0	0
A very fine Exhibition Satin Wood Bedroom Suite, 7ft. Wardrobe, 4ft. 6in. Pedestal Dressing Table, and 4ft. 6in. Washstand. This suite is one rarely to be seen, and all connoisseurs of high-class work should not fail to inspect this article	110	0	0
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Vernis Martin Commode with hand-painted Panels	18	18	0
4 Gilt Berger Chairs	10	10	0
5ft. 6in. Chesterfield in Tapestry	3	15	0
Bureau Bookcase, Sheraton Design	6	6	0
Drop Front Bureau	2	15	0
Elegant Design Inlaid Mahogany China Cabinet	8	10	0
Pair of Inlaid Palm Stands	0	18	6

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Piano in Walt. Case, by Oetzmann	13	10	0

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5 Inlaid Sheraton Design Bedroom Suites, handsome design	8	10	0
8 Oak Bedsteads fitted with Combination Wire	0	16	6
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Antique Mahogany Bow Front Chest of Drawers	3	15	0
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6 Full Size Oak Bedsteads, with Sanitary Wire Overlay, Bolster and 2 Pillows (Bedding equal to new)	3	3	0
3 Inlaid Sheraton Design Bedroom Suites, with Shaving Mirror to Washstand	11	11	0
4 Large size Sheraton Design Bedroom Suites, Oval Plate Glass to Wardrobe and Reflex Mirrors to Dressing Table	15	10	0
4 Full-size Sheraton Design Bedsteads, complete	3	10	0
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A Fine Old English Mahogany Tall Boy Chest of 9 Drawers	12	10	0

	£	s.	d.
Piano in Ebonised Case, by Steinmayer	17	0	0
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Transposing Piano in Burr Walt. Case, by Gigneif	25	0	0
Piano, by Carl Strauss	18	18	0
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About 500 Rugs, all good designs	0	7	6
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15 Very Fine Brussels Carpets, from	2	10	0

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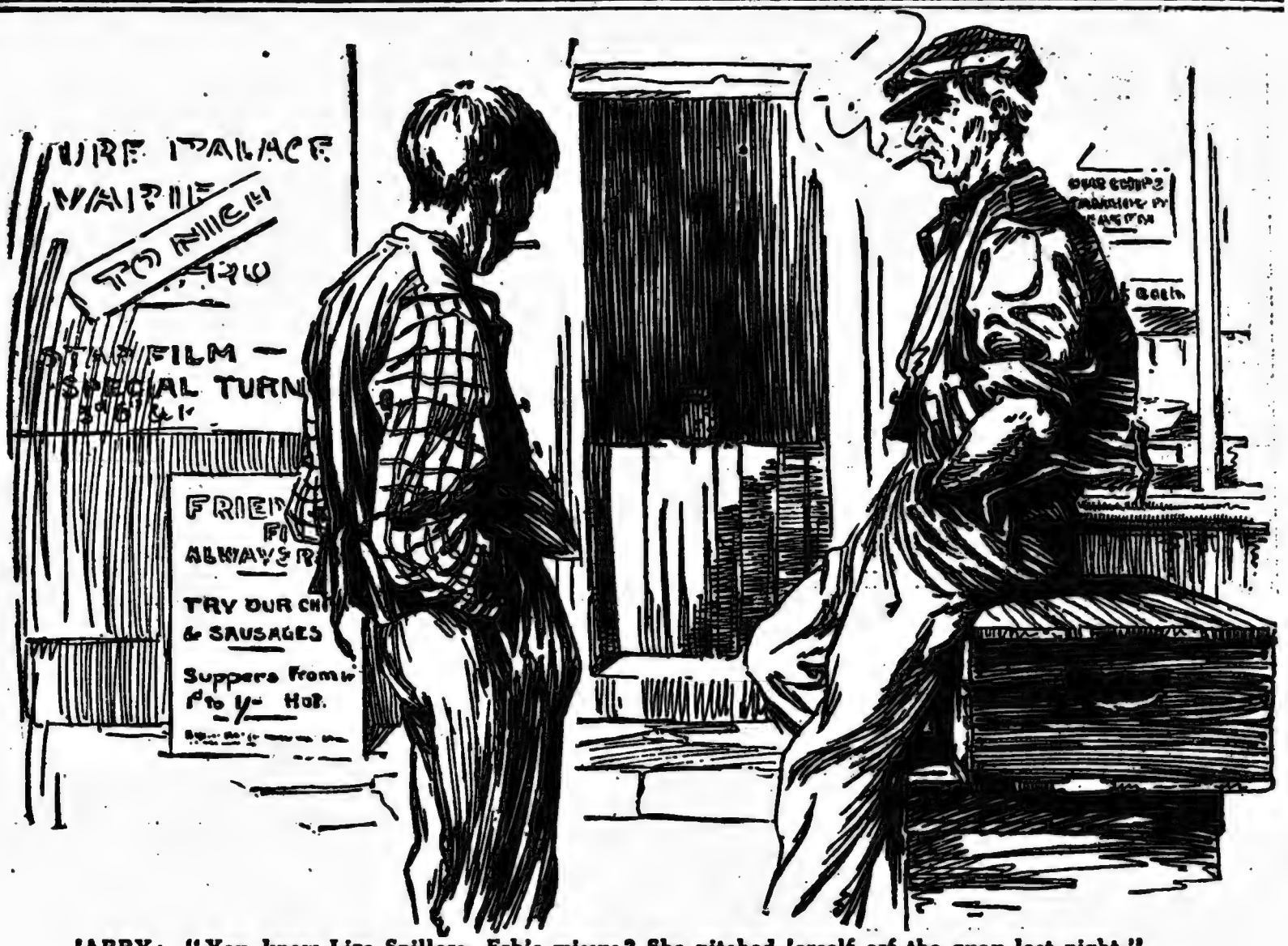

'ARRY: "You know Liza Spillers—Erb's missus? She pitched 'erself orf the quay last night."
CHARLIE: "Poor Liza!"
'ARRY: "An' a copper fished 'er out agin."
CHARLIE: "Poor Erb!"

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

President Poincare's Visit.

British Workman: Jer see the French President lawst week, mate?

German Barber: Nein.

British Workman: Wot jer torkin' erbart? There ain't nine. There's on'y one!

German Barber: Yah. I onderstand.

British Workman: Don'chew stawt a-yah-in' me, mate, else I might say "bow-bow" to you. See?

German Barber: I onderstand, mein frient. Ven I say "Yah" it mean "yes." Yah? Und ven I say, "Nein" id mean "no." Yah?

British Workman: Boo! I awsk'd yer w'ether yer see the French President. Yes or no.

German Barber: Yes, yes. I see him—dwice.

British Workman: Wotjer fink of 'im? Ain't 'e orl right? Not 'arf!

German Barber: No goot. All der Vrench beoble no goot.

British Workman: 'Ere, you go steady. 'E's bin our guest, an' there's a ontont cordy ale 'atween Frawnce an' England. I ain't goin' ter listen to the French bein' run dahn, an' don'chew fergit it.

German Barber: Urgh! Der Vrench cannod fight. Ve dook Alsace und Lorraine vrom dem.

British Workman: Oh, so you're a German sossidge, aw yer? I was a-wonderin' wot sorter guy you might be. Wotcher doin' over 'ere?

German Barber: I am barber. I cut 'air und zhave

British Workman: An' do an English bawber outer'v a job. Thet's it. If I 'ad my way I'd clear orl you Germans outer'v England in twenty-four hours.

German Barber: Yah? Und vot aboud der Vrench valders?

British Workman: You let ther French erlone, je 'ear? We an' ther French is hallies, an' ther President's jest bin our guest, so I won't 'ear nuthink agin' 'em.

German Barber: You haf fought der Vrench. You like dem because you haf beat dem—at Vaderloo—mit der helb off Shermany. You do nod like der Shermans because you haf never bead dem.

British Workman: We ain't 'ad ther chawnce yet, ole sossidge. But you wait.

German Barber: Ve are ready. *Ve* haf der *army*—millions und millions off soldier—nod a 'andful off vod you gall Derrydorials. Ve smash you ub, so—c-r-r-rk!

British Workman: 'Ere, not sermuch of it. Wot erbart our Dreadnoughts? You ain't caught us up yet, mate; an' yer cawnt raise the oof, neether. But thet ain't ther pint. Wot I awsk is this: Wotjer fink of ther French President a-comin' over 'ere an' bein' welcomed like a bloomin' corncurin' 'ero, sarnd yet trumpit, blow yer drum? Thet's a nawsty biff in the eye fur Germany, ain't it?

German Barber: Nein. Id does——

British Workman: You're right, mate. Nine biffs, or ten—haw, haw!

German Barber: You dork woolisch. Id does nod madder. Ve haf Vrance under our 'eel.

British Workman: Yuss; an' we've got Germany in front of our toe, see? You try to put yer 'eel on Frawnce an' we'll toe yer fleet to 'ell—see?

German Barber: Dod is ver vunny, no doubd, bud eet vill nod vash. You dalk—und dot is all. You too busy mit leedle zings—Margonis, bardy bolidics, und der rezd, vile *ve* are vorkin'—day und nacht, for der glory off our Faderland.

British Workman (uneasily): Eh?

German Barber: *Ve* haf ideals. *Ve* haf an Emberor mit bower, who insbire 'is beoble mit de sbirit off batriotism. I get oud 'ere. Good nacht.

British Workman (spits): Wot's 'e torkin' erbart? Enny'ow, 'ere's ter Frawnce! An' darn with sossidges—wiv a bit o' mash, haw-haw!

Let "Bullets" pay for your holidays. See page 34.

Rheumatism.

Nervous Breakdown

Mr. H. Vivian Pearce, Head Master, Cranbourne School, Dorset, writes:—"A great domestic trouble, coupled with hard work at school, completely shattered my nerves, and there seemed nothing for it but to give up teaching and take a long rest; but thanks to Phosferine, I was sustained and restored to health, and although over fifty years of age, I now feel as well and strong as I did at twenty-five. Whenever I feel tired, or experience any brain fag, Phosferine puts new life into me. My knuckles and joints were considerably swollen with rheumatism, and the distressing pains gave me no rest, but by the aid of Phosferine this complaint has been quite removed from my system. I consider Phosferine admirably suited to all teachers; it would help very materially in preventing and removing brain fag and depression, to which they are so liable.

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OPEN LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.

To Colonel Seely, Secretary of State for War.

DEAR SEELY,—Your recent speech at Middlesbrough was in the true Imperial spirit. It is good to know that we have at least one Minister whose outlook transcends the puny limits of Party warfare. You vow that you "will never allow Party differences to interfere with national safety," and you promise that when the time comes you will loyally co-operate with Unionists in matters of Imperial defence. Such sentiments do you infinite credit, but have you realised the full significance of your words? A system whereby Party interests are brought into direct conflict with Imperial needs is surely doomed to speedy and ignominious extinction. Are you ready for the change?

JOHN BULL.

To the Right Hon. John Burns, M.P., Local Government Board, Whitehall.

DEAR JOHN,—Forgive my momentary intrusion. *Your* attention has been called to the fact that certain milkmen are wont to carry a bottle of water with them, whence at propitious seasons they nefariously dilute the pure lacteal fluid. *My* attention has been directed to the circumstance that certain milk inspectors are wont to juggle with watery bottles in which the richest and creamiest milk soon becomes "below par." Both these allegations demand searching investigation. It is right that inspectors should be vigilant, but they must "play the game."

JOHN BULL.

To Sir Samuel Evans, President of the Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Division.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,—I hear that you have announced your intention of "sitting late" until further notice, in order to deal with the pressure of your work. I commend your thoughtful care for the suspense of anxious suitors, and I sincerely trust that your added labours may result in a rich harvest of ripe judgments. I noticed that your brother Darling recently sacrificed his Saturday leisure to the hearing of an important cause. You two are evidently of one mind in this matter. Cannot you devise some practical scheme for the "speeding up" of judicial business? Recommendations in your joint names would command respectful consideration. Why not create a precedent for once? Royal Commissions are so unutterably slow.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Joseph Nelson, Builder, Bateman Road, Chingford.

MR. LANDLORD,—On the whole, I think you got off rather cheaply in the action for trespass and illegal distress brought against you by a former tenant of yours, a Mr. Wyman Kelly. He took the house from you and hoped to settle down in comfort; but he had not been in possession long before he found himself having a lively time of it. Fleas started to play hop, skip and jump all over the place. The longer he stayed the merrier they got. They increased and multiplied and got married and brought forth children unto the third and fourth generation. They chased him up and downstairs and followed him out and home again. They were his constant companions. They were in his bed and in his bath; if he had stayed much longer they would have drunk all his beer and stolen all his food. He called in the Sanitary Inspector, and that official fumigated those fleas enough to kill a cat, but the more they were fumigated the less they seemed to mind.

If your tenant had been Hackenschmidt or the Terrible Turk he might have stayed up all night wrestling with them, but he was plain Kelly and so he fled in terror to another house, of which he notified you the address; whereupon, after sending him a postcard demanding his rent, you distrained on his effects in his new home.

This was adding injury to outrage, and he was awarded £10 damages, and costs. I don't know how the present tenants of "Brooklands" are going on, but I do hope the fleas have now left the premises; it would pain me to hear that husband and wife and children had been pulled out of bed and chased into the street in the middle of the night. I advise you to pull down the house.

JOHN BULL.

To Lieut. Harold Wesley Hall, 2nd Dragoon Guards.

DEAR HAROLD,—Last week you appeared before the Woking magistrates, charged with exceeding the 20-mile speed limit, and with offering a half-sovereign to Police-Sergt. Hornett, who arrested you in your mad career. You were fined £5 for the first-mentioned offence, but were acquitted on the second. Will you excuse me if I say I am at a loss to know why? Sergt. Hornett declared that you were motoring at 35 miles an hour on the London Road, Wisley, and that when stopped you said, "Can't you reduce the speed a bit, as I have already two previous ones against me, and it might make a difference to my licence?" Whereupon you slipped the half-sovereign into his hand. For your own part you spurned the suggestion that you gave the bobby the half-bar to induce him to make an incorrect report, but merely to enable him to purchase a drink. Quite so. But do you usually give half-sovereigns to policemen who check your passage and cause you to be summoned for excessive speed? And do not you consider a half-sovereign a somewhat extravagant tip to hand a policeman for the paltry purpose of drinking your health? You told your tale to the Woking Magistrates with success. Now try it on the Horse Marines—or Sub Marines.

JOHN BULL.

To Dr. Andrew Carnegie, Skibo Castle, Scotland.

DEAR LIBRARIAN,—I observe that you journeyed to Berlin on the occasion of the Kaiser's recent "jubilee" and there exchanged pleasantries with Europe's august mentor. You presented a congratulatory address on behalf of certain Peace societies, and were rewarded with the Emperor's assurance that "he hoped there would be another twenty-five years of peace." You seem to have been mightily pleased with this trite and commonplace observation—so much so that you straightway indulged in fulsome adulation.

Did you closely observe the countenance of the august War Lord? The wayward tongue of Wilhelm II. has a trick of nestling in the Imperial cheek. Was it really worth while to travel to Berlin for the purpose of having your "leg pulled"? Of course, expense is no consideration to you, but you might have got it done much cheaper at home.

JOHN BULL.

To the Guardians of the Poor, Wandsworth Union.

GENTLEMEN,—I observe that the Local Government Board have forbidden you to feed yourselves at the public expense. I understand that your little tea-parties are delightfully social, and that full many a personal dispute among you has been amiably set at rest to the merry accompaniment of rattling plates and clinking cups. There is but one drawback to these functions. They cost you threepence a head, and despite your public spirited efforts to saddle the ratepayers with the trifling charge, a soulless Board has decreed that you must yourselves bear the burden. I cannot think that you will take their decision lying down. "Free Teas for Guardians" will be an excellent election cry, and think of the possibilities. You may yet see the day when grateful ratepayers will vie with each other in their eagerness to buy your boots or your beer. Be bold!

JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. Everard Digby, St. Agatha's Church, Shoreditch.

DEAR YOUR REVERENCE,—Permit me to offer you whole-hearted salutation. You are a parson after my own heart. I gather that you are the only wearer of your cloth who enjoys membership of the National Sporting Club, and your recent public utterances reveal a fine type of muscular Christianity which is all too rare in these somewhat degenerate days. You say: "If you cannot take your religion into honest, decent, clean, manly sports there must be something wrong with it." Well spoken, Sir!

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, House of Commons.

RIDICULOUS SIR,—Why indulge in these "explanations" of your transparent subservience to the Government Whip? Having been a school teacher (non-unionist) you probably know a little French. *Qui s'excuse, s'accuse.*

JOHN BULL.

Make sure of your "John Bull" Pen. Start to get one at once.

THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION.

THE KAISER: "I wonder what they're talking about?"

ASTOUNDING NEW MARCONI REVELATIONS.

SHOULD MINISTERS BE IMPEACHED?—THE WHOLE GOVERNMENT IMPLICATED.

As our readers are aware, we held ourselves aloof during the recent Marconi Campaign—entertaining, as we did the view that the transactions on the part of certain Ministers complained of were so remote in character from any semblance of corruption, and were so purely personal and unofficial in nature, as to take them outside the purview of public concern; and we more than once expressed the view that but for the exigencies of the Party Game, the whole thing would have fizzled out in twenty-four hours. So far as past "revelations" are concerned, we adhere to that view. Nothing has occurred to modify it in the remotest degree, and but for the facts which have now come to our knowledge, and which, for the first time, are disclosed to the world, we should still have held the opinion that, judged by any fair standard of public conduct, Ministers had emerged unscathed from their ordeal.

Now, however, the whole complexion of the scandal is changed. For weeks past rumour has been rife with hints and whispers of unrevealed Ministerial corruption, but so far no journal has dared to give them definite utterance. We, however, are not easily frightened, and the law of libel has little terror for us when we are sure of our ground.

The Premier's Guilt.

Here, boldly, without a doubt and without a qualm, without a pity and without a scruple, we charge Ministers with further dealings in American Marconis, not this time the dealings of honest if mistaken men, but dealings as corrupt as any which have disgraced John Bull's island story. Looking at the facts in a calm and clear light, it is evident Ministers are corrupt up and down, through and through. Not only are they corrupt, but they are duplicitous and mendacious. All the while Mr. Asquith, the Premier, was raising lofty pinnacles of public and private honour for Ministers in the House of Commons his tongue was in his cheek It now appears that only a few days earlier he had been raising electric sparks for wireless messages out of the Treasury cat and selling them to Mr. Godfrey Isaacs, the brother of his Attorney-General, a director of the American Marconi Company, at three a penny, netting by this means a profit of £18,675 14s. 6½d. Nor is this all. Scarcely an hour before he made his speech he sold the cat outright to the company for £500,000, and it is now catching rats before they eat holes through the company's sky-poles, thus saving the shareholders thousands of pounds a year in timber. It is added that the Lord Chancellor, the Attorney-General, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, getting wind of Mr Asquith's operations with national property, as undoubtedly this cat was, tried to purloin the feline and float it as a limited liability company with the object of turning its skin into ear pieces for receiving stations, but the enterprise fell through owing to the temporary absence of the beast on the roof of the Treasury.

Mr. Herbert Samuel, Mr Montagu and Mr Runciman.

Thus bad begins, but worse remains behind. It has been ascertained that on June 15th last, Mr. Herbert Samuel, Postmaster-General, sold to Mr. E. S. Montagu, of the Indian Office, 10,000 shares of 3d. each in the Paraffin Wax Company, Ltd., which had at this time a contract with the American Marconi Company to supply the wax they used for insulation purposes, and that Mr. Montagu swopped them the next afternoon for half a sack of Consols (carriage paid) and other gilt-edged Government securities, while Mr Runciman, the Minister for Agriculture, arranged a deal with Mr. Godfrey Isaacs and Mr. Harry Isaacs, by way of Mr. Samuel and Lord Murray, on the basis that up to 2,000 lbs. he would exchange three yellow turnips or ten spring onions for two American Marconis when the contract with the Postmaster-General was signed.

Mr. Birrell,

Now follows a still more horrible revelation, and by it our faith in St. Augustine Birrell, Chief Secretary for Ireland, is gone, to hang over our young life as a cloud of unlifting grief. We have to say that one night Mr. Birrell was seen to hide himself in his cloak, steal out from Dublin Castle, assemble beneath the shade of a tree in Phœnix Park, bury certain documents, and slink back again. A stray Orangeman who had been watching these operations, by name Patrick Flanagan, *alias* Kelly, immediately dug up the papers and discovered them to be 5,127 shares in the Ever-Ready Supply Syndicate, Limited, which contracted with the American Marconi Company to supply dusters to the Company's charwomen.

Mr. Burns, Sir Edward Grey, Col. Seely, Mr. Churchill.

The other Cabinet Ministers, whose names appear above, are known to have despatched Marconigrams to friends or relatives during the time that the Postmaster-General was considering the terms of the proposed contract. Anything more likely to influence the P.M.G. in coming to a decision—one way or the other—we cannot imagine, and anything more calculated to stiffen the Marconi Company in making a bargain with the Government it would be impossible to conceive.

The Marconi Paper Contract.

But this is not the worst. Another Minister is said to be a shareholder in the paper mill that supplies paper to the printers who supply the Company with their Marconigram forms. This apparently innocent circumstance conceals a depth of villainy and corruption that appals. Here is one of His Majesty's trusted advisers, a man in whom the people have had confidence, battening on the Marconi Company's success, knowing full well that the more Marconigrams there are despatched, the more printed forms will be required, and that the more printed forms there are required, the more paper will be needed by the printer, and that the more paper the printer needs, the more orders will come to the paper mill in which he is a shareholder.

The Copper Contract.

Let us take, again, the horrible case of a certain Secretary of State. This gentleman (gentleman, forsooth!) is married to a lady whose third cousin has a daughter who is engaged to be married to the manager of a large copper mine in South America. Now it is known to all who confess to the most elementary knowledge of the Marconi system that copper enters largely into the construction of the wireless apparatus. Need we say more?

The Main Charge.

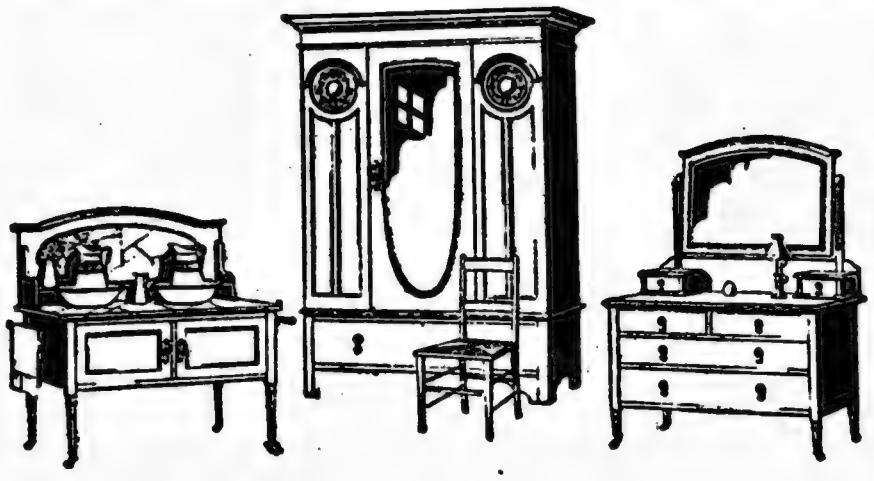
And now let us come to the main charge of all. We are sorry to have to indict—and to condemn, for we may as well do both at once—the whole Government of this stricken land, not only the Cabinet Ministers, but every other Minister, Secretary and Under-Secretary. We say unfalteringly and without fear of contradiction that each one of these gentlemen passes each day of his life, each hour of the day and each hour of the night, in direct connection with the Marconi Company (British). Let us have the full facts set plain for all to see. Here they are:—

The Marconi Company (British) is a wireless company sending its messages through the air of Britain.

The members of this discredited Government of ours, while they were negotiating a contract with the Company were—and at the present moment still are—*breathing the same air!*

These, then, are the accusations, stated in all their naked horror. We do not profess to have investigated them before publication. Investigating charges before making them is apt to be disappointing, for if they turned out to be untrue we should then have to keep them out of the paper and have had all our trouble for nothing. Besides, we think all responsible journalists should have the courage of other people's opinions; it saves them from the pain of doing their own thinking. Once more, then, we must have the heads of the Ministers. And we must have 'em on a charger reeking with their gore.

Better try for our £1,000 Cricket Prize THIS week. See page 27.



The Newark Suite.

A very happily designed and well made Oak Suite. The 4 ft. wardrobe is exceptionally handsome, having carved circular panels and quaintly shaped bevelled mirror. The dressing table and washstand are each 3 ft. 6 in. wide, the former having a large mirror, trinket drawers, etc., and the latter a marble top and back, and double cupboard under. The suite includes two rush-seated chairs.

£14 10s. 0d.

"Midland" Value

The *permanent* confidence of every one of our customers is the most gratifying proof that our ambition to offer value unequalled in the whole furnishing trade is fulfilled. Our enormous stock, and our series of completely furnished flats, while providing numerous suggestions, afford unlimited scope for personal selection to suit individual tastes. You are invited to visit our splendidly equipped Showrooms.

Ideal Payment System.

Under our Ideal Payment System you pay only the plainly marked prices on the goods. No deposit is asked, no interest required, and no further charges made. All furniture purchased under our Ideal System is **insured against fire.** Further, in the event of the death of the purchaser **the furniture becomes the absolute property of the wife** or next of kin, without any further payment.

Terms.

Worth.				Per month.			Worth.				Per month.		
£10	...	...	...	£0	6	0	£50	...	...	...	£1	8	0
£20	...	...	...	0	11	0	£100	...	...	...	2	5	0
£30	...	...	...	0	17	0	£200	...	...	...	4	10	0
£40	...	...	...	1	5	0	£500	...	...	...	11	5	0

Larger amounts pro rata.

10% Additional Discount for Cash. **No extra charge for Credit.**

Send for our Complete Furnishing Guide.

A very elaborate Guide to the furnishing of the home, containing hundreds of illustrations and several coloured plates, sent post free. Write to-day.

The House with the Colonnade.

Furnishing Company, Ltd.,

London's Leading Furnishers,

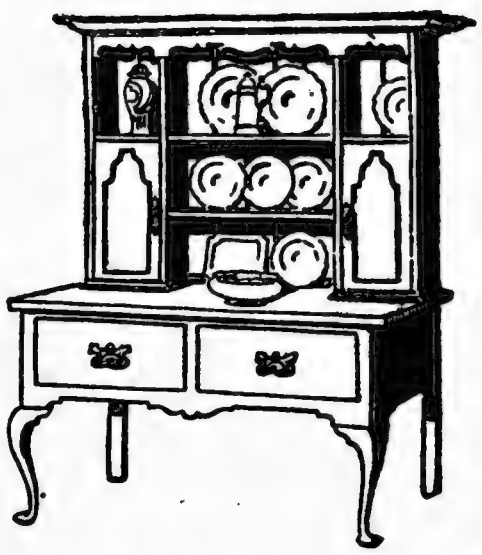
15 to 23, Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

Seven doors from Holborn and Holborn Tube Station,
1 minute from British Museum Tube Station.

Hours 9 till 8. **Saturdays 9 till 1.**

Fumed Oak Bureau Bookcase with fall front. 2 ft. 6 in. wide, 5 ft. 6 in. high, 15½ in. deep.

£3 3s. 0d.



A most artistic Oak Dresser, beautifully designed on Queen Anne lines, with two drawers and two cupboards. Exceptional value.

£3 15s. 0d.

Railway Fares Paid.

In order that country customers may make a personal selection we pay their fares to town on all orders of £20 and upwards. Country orders packed and delivered free.

Our Second-hand Department.

We have in this department stock valued at considerably over £10,000. Special weekly catalogue post free on application.

ANTICIPATED EPITAPHS.

By W. M.

Ceafe,
Paſsynge stranger,
Youre careleſs laughter and youre worldlie talke.
For
Underneathe thys tree
Lie ye remaynes
Of
John Hodge,
Sometyme
Laboure M.P. for
Ye Gorton Divyſion of Lancaſhyre.
Born
Anno Domini 1855
Hee was educated atte
Motherwell Iron Workes Schoole,
And atte
Hutchesontown Grammar Schoole, Glaſgow.
Afflycted
Wyth a paſsion toe serve hys felloes,
Hee formed ye
Brytyſh Steele Smelters' Mill, Iron and Tynplate Workers' Aſsoçiaçion,
Became Secretarie thereof
And soe remayned tyll ye ende.
Butte thys was notte hys onlie tytle toe fame.
Anno Domini 1892
Hee became
Preſidente of ye Trades Congreſs,
And was subſequentlie mixed uppe
In varyous other
Laboure congreſsefs and organizaçiones.
Anno Domini 1900
Hee contefted Gower:
Butte
Gower sayd "Gower way!"
Anno Domini 1903
Hee contefted Preſton:
Butte
Atte Preſton's advyce hee Preſt-on.
Unhappilie
Nothynge coulde keepe hym oute of
Parlymente,
For
Anno Domini 1906
Hee was eleckted
Member for Gorton, Lancs.
Hee quicklie became a noticable figure
Inne ye Houſe of Commons,
As muche onne accompt of
Hys weird and wonderfull hattes
As of hys huge phyſickall bulke.
Butte one fyne daie
Hee appeared onne ye floore of ye Houſe
Inne a garbe thatte fairlie
Putte ye lidde onne,
Toe witte,
A lyghte khaki linen suite,
A straw Trilby hatte of browne,
A greene tye,
And
A noſegaie of redde roſes.
Ye Houſe cheered,
Ye Pryme Mynifter faynted,
And John Warde turned greene wyth envie.
Havynge attayned ye degree of conſpicuoſitie
Hee defyred,
Hee dyed.

*

Beneathe thys willow's shade doo lodge
Ye boanes gigantick of John Hodge;
Hys cloathes are buried wyth hym too—
Itte was a thoughtfull thynge toe doo.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

SEE PAGE iii. OF COVER.

STOMACH TROUBLES DUE TO ACIDITY.

SO SAYS EMINENT SPECIALIST.

So-called stomach troubles, such as indigestion, wind, stomach-ache and inability to retain food, instead of indicating that the stomach is out of order, are in nine cases out of ten simply evidence that fermentation is taking place in the food contents of the stomach, causing the formation of gas and acids. Wind distends the stomach, and causes that full, oppressive feeling sometimes known as heartburn, while the acid irritates and inflames the delicate lining of the stomach. The stomach, however, is not at fault. The trouble lies entirely in the fermenting food. Such fermentation is unnatural, and acid formation is not only unnatural, but may involve the most serious consequences if not prevented. To prevent or stop fermentation of the food contents of the stomach, and to neutralise the acid, and render it bland and harmless, half a teaspoonful of bisurated magnesia, probably the best and most effective antacid known, should be taken in a quarter of a glass of hot or cold water immediately after eating, or whenever wind or acidity is felt. This stops the fermentation, and neutralises the acidity in a few moments. Fermentation, wind and acidity are dangerous and unnecessary. Stop or prevent them by the use of a proper antacid, such as bisurated magnesia, which can be obtained from any chemist, and thus enable the stomach to do its work properly without being hindered by poisonous gas and dangerous acids.—M. F. P.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CHAUFFEUR

or qualify for any position in the Motor Industry?

If so, we advise you to apply AT ONCE to the British Motor Industry's training centre.

POPULAR COURSE of unlimited practical instruction in Motor Car Driving, Mechanism and running repairs on the road until you state in writing that you are satisfied and proficient.

Lowest inclusive Fee. Highest Standard training.

This Course entitles you to the certificate and free introduction to positions through the B.S.M. Employment Department licensed LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL—No Extra Charges.

Call or send a postcard for Free prospectus (J).

THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF MOTORING,
Coventry House, 5, Coventry Street,
Piccadilly Circus, London, W.

TECLA

Tecla creations are wonderful reproductions of genuine pearls, sapphires, emeralds and rubies, and possess the essential qualities of natural gems. Mounted only with real diamonds in platinum and gold settings of rare individuality.

London Tecla Gem Co., Ltd., 7 Old Bond Street, W.

COMPETENT MEN

are always in demand, and we always have a large number of positions open for men possessed of Special Ability—technical or otherwise. If you are possessed of such ability, and have a character which is proven or provable, write us to-day or call.

HAPGOODS Ltd., Employment Experts, 167-8 STRAND. LONDON, W.C.

£10 Easily earned by anyone who can influence or obtain orders, large or small, for "Electric Lamps, supplied direct to user, from London factory at prices defying competition. Write 22, Trinder Road, London, N. **A WEEK**

ROYAL HAIR SPECIALIST'S STARTLING DISCOVERY.

CONSUMPTION OF THE HAIR—IS IT ALLIED TO CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS?

Alarming Reports from All Parts of the Country.

What is Consumption of the Hair?

Is it allied to and the forerunner of consumption of the lungs?

These are the questions which are being asked to-day in all parts of the country following the publication of the discoveries made by Mr. Edwards, the leading Court Hair Specialist and inventor of Harlene Hair Drill.

"Medical opinion," says Mr. Edwards, agrees that the dreadful scourge of consumption is due to impurities in the atmosphere we breathe, but up to the present no means have been found to eradicate those impurities and thus strike a blow against the advance of consumption at the outset."

It was the very marked similarity in the various stages of consumption of the lungs and the progress of hair consumption which first drew Mr. Edwards' attention to the subject, and caused him to give the matter a thorough scientific investigation.

This is the terrible discovery he made. He found hundreds—thousands—of people in all parts of the country who were making the truly terrible mistake of thinking that ordinary washing would remove the accumulations of scurf on the scalp.

He discovered that this accumulation of scurf not only remained in the scalp, but that it fermented there and set up an intolerable irritation. It poisoned the very atmosphere in which these people lived, and was the direct cause of this terrible scourge of Consumption of the Hair.

This discovery was so appalling that Mr. Edwards experienced a natural hesitancy in announcing it to the world. He realised how horrified these ladies and gentlemen would be to learn that they had been consenting to such a terrible condition.

A NATIONAL DANGER.

But he also realised that delicacy of feeling must stand aside for the advance of science, and that, in the interests of health and the welfare of the race, a great effort must be made to eradicate this terrible disease of Consumption of the Hair—closely allied as it is to that dread disease from which it takes its name.

For a moment just think what this means.

You—who are so dainty and particular in matters of hygiene—are actually inviting this terrible scourge by allowing this awful accumulation to remain on the scalp poisoning the atmosphere in which you live and also murdering your hair.

The health of your hair is a pretty sure indication of the health of your whole system. It is the index or pointer of your body's health.

A NATIONAL DUTY.

This is the duty of all right-minded men and women to-day.

To stamp out this great scourge of Consumption of the Hair. To entirely eradicate it by the means which Mr. Edwards has invented—the famous Harlene Hair Drill.

By practising Harlene Hair Drill for two minutes daily you can free yourself from the clutches of Hair Consumption and positively produce a rich, permanent growth of natural gleaming hair.

Harlene Hair Drill cures all the following hair and scalp disorders—

—Total Baldness (even of years' standing).
—Partial or Patchy Baldness.
—Thinning of Hair over the temples.
—Thin, weak, straggling Hair.
—Hair which falls out whenever brushed or combed.
—Hair which splits at the ends.
—Dull, dead-looking, lustre-lacking Hair.
—Dry, brittle Hair.
—Greasy Hair.
—Deposit of Scurf and Dandruff.
—Discoloured Hair.
—Irritation of the Scalp.

Here the microscope reveals the true cause of hair poverty and baldness. The two micro-photographic reproductions show plainly the condition of the hair roots in the case of neglected hair and hair which has been drilled with Harlene. Harlene Hair Drill is the only method acknowledged by scientists for removing this scurfy accumulation and nourishing the hair roots. Start YOUR Hair Drill TO-DAY.

Start your hair drill to-day. And not only you yourself but get your friends and your family to join the crusade against Hair Consumption. For your health's sake, for the sake of the race and the nation, it is your bounden duty to stamp out this terrible disease. Every day's delay is dangerous.

MR. EDWARDS' NEW CAMPAIGN.

Mr. Edwards has already spent a vast amount of money in distributing free treatment for run-down hair.

But in the interests of science and humanity he has decided to distribute another million FREE HARLENE HAIR DRILL OUTFITS to encourage ladies and gentlemen to co-operate with him in his new campaign against Consumption of the Hair.

One of these outfits is for you. Write for it to-day.

GENEROUS FREE GIFT TO EVERY READER.

Fill in the coupon printed below, and post it, with 3d. in stamps to pay postage of return outfit, to the Edwards Harlene Company, and in return you will be sent the following free Hair-Growing Toilet Gift, containing:—

1. **A trial bottle of that delightful hair-food and tonic dressing, "Harlene for the Hair."**
2. **A packet of "Cremex" for the Scalp, a delightful Shampoo Powder for home use, which thoroughly cleanses the Scalp from Scurf, and prepares the hair for the Hair-Drill Treatment.**
3. **Mr. Edwards' private book of "Hair-Drill" Rules, which shows you how, by practising them for 2 minutes a day you can put a stop to the falling or fading of your hair, and restore the latter to luxuriant, healthy, and lustrous abundance.**

All chemists and stores in the British Isles sell Harlene for-the-Hair in 1s., 2s. 6d. and 4s. 6d. bottles. Cremex in 1s. boxes of 7 shampoos, single shampoos 2d.; or you can obtain them, post free, from the Edwards' Harlene Co., 104 High Holborn, London, W.C. Foreign orders freight extra.

But first write for the seven days' Free Course of Harlene Hair-Drill. Fill up this Coupon.

This Coupon entitles you to One Week's Harlene Hair-Drill Outfit Free.

To the EDWARDS' HARLENE CO.,
104, High Holborn, London, W.C.

Dear Sirs,—I am desirous of joining the National Crusade against Consumption of the Hair. Please send me by return of post a presentation toilet outfit for practising Harlene Hair-Drill, including (1) Free Bottle of Harlene for the Hair; (2) Free Packet of Cremex Shampoo Powder; (3) Hair-Drill Manual of Rules and Instructions for Growing Healthy and Abundant Hair. I enclose 3d. in stamps to pay carriage of above to the following address:—

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

JOHN BULL, July 5, 1913.

John Bull's Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

CORRESPONDENTS desiring INFORMATION *should place their questions in* CONCISE *form and refrain from sending* VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, *at any rate until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.*

For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 32.
For Sporting Replies, see page 36.

W. S. E. (London) and OTHERS.—Many thanks for your congratulations on the attitude we adopted towards the Clacton cur, who endeavoured to tamper with our "Bullets" judges.

"CONSTANT READER" (Buenos Ayres).—What an ass the Editor of your local *Standard* must be!

G. J. C. (Leicester).—We note that in the "Notice to Consumptives," issued by the Medical Officer for Leicester, the following advice is given: "Pray. You may not recover, but many do. In any case, you will have to die some day; at least be thankful that you have time to prepare for death." We agree that such advice does not come within the duties of the Medical Officer—what says the parson?

T. P. O. (Chiddingstone)—You think the young girls who read the *Daily Mirror* would be a little startled at the paragraph announcing the alleged discovery of the pre-determination of sex by a Parisian doctor, and headed "Boys or Girls at Will." We are not in the confidence of the young girls aforesaid.

D. A. (Perth).—If you have cancelled the order for the books and have heard nothing further, you may doubtless take it that the Gresham Publishing Company have accepted your statement that you are not in a financial condition to complete your contract.

J. R. (Belfast).—Your severe criticism of "Tom Ormrod's" Revival article is received. If he is not now sitting in sackcloth and ashes we assure you the fault is not yours.

"VULCAN" (Derby).—Sorry we have only now reached your letter. Standing as an independent candidate for the Castleton division of the County Council, "working on his own account and without any political association whatever," Mr. Robinson undoubtedly did very well in reducing his opponent's majority from 181 to 68. Next time we hope he will be a winner.

M. M. (Bow).—*Prima facie*, we should say that the Jewish Board of Guardians have substantial reasons for refusing assistance to "the lady whose husband has got into trouble and now serving his sentence," their reputation being that of a very charitable body indeed.

THE General President of the National Union of Ships' Stewards, Cooks, Butchers and Bakers wishes us to state that the "General Secretary of the Cooks' and Stewards' Union, Cardiff," to whom we recently addressed an Open Letter, is not an official of his Society, nor in any way connected with it. We have much pleasure in complying with this request.

A. W. (Sutton).—If the woman canvasser from Ellis and Co., 41, King William Street, London, E.C., induced the servant girl to part with the two photos under the pretence that the firm would enlarge them for nothing, and a man afterwards called and said if she wanted the enlargements and the photos returned she would have to pay 17s. 6d. for frames, and the firm actually demands that sum from her, she should not pay and should insist upon the return of her photos. Ellis and Co. are notorious experts at this business.

A. J. G. (Parkeston).—The curate was adopting a Ritualistic practice borrowed from the Roman Catholic Church. In the case against the Bishop of Lincoln the Archbishop's court pronounced that the mixing of water and wine during Communion service must be discontinued. The use of the cup already mixed is decided not to be an ecclesiastical offence, nor is reverent consumption of what remains of the consecrated elements.

W. D. (Cape Town).—"This is what we are coming to in Cape Town now," you say of the circulars distributed there by the Standard Publishing Co., P.O. Box 1132, Cape Town, offering for sale at from 1s. to 5s. various schemes for making money as easily as shelling peas. We know that publishing company.

"RUPTURE."—We know nothing of the Brooks Rupture Appliance. The best advice we can give you is to see a doctor. You may do more harm than good in wearing an unsuitable truss.

K. L. C. (Kilburn).—We have not yet inspected the back of the moon. When we have done so we will publish a full report on the matter.

D. S. P. (Penzance).—Can you eat oysters in June? You can if you please, supposing you can get any; but don't blame us for what happens if you can, and you please.

W. M. P. (Hampton).—If the Kingston tradespeople are not obeying the Shops Act as to hours of closing, report specific cases to the Inspector and he will doubtless prosecute.

F. S. M. (W.C.).—Certainly you may suggest that we should use the term "Britain" for the country and "Britisher" for the individual, but if we acted upon the suggestion we should never be able to wipe the tear from Erin's eye.

R. L. (Brynamman).—If, as you state, the gentleman is a County Councillor contracting directly with the County Council, make the charge in a letter to the Clerk of the Council—and be prepared to prove it in case of a libel action. A man should always have the courage of at least some of his convictions.

H. B. (Leeds).—It did not escape our notice that in reviewing a book by Lord Milner, the *Daily Mail* admitted that Party Government has outlived its usefulness and is doomed to extinction. Our distinguished contemporary often quotes us.

C. D. D. (Birkenhead).—You "would like to call the attention of the public to the fact that after being out of employment for two weeks and paying National dues since the Act, the Labour Exchange want to pay you the magnificent sum of 3s. 6d. for two weeks out of work pay." You hereby do as you like.

MRS. P. (Guernsey).—The evening newspaper was correct in describing the entry of the police into your shop as a "raid."

J. G. (New Cumnock).—The character of the correspondence leads us to suspect that "The Glazolin Postcard Company," of 10, Westbourne Road, Barnsbury, is a company of one. Your letter, however, does not explain whether or not you have received the postcards or had your money returned.

A. J. H. (Bristol).—"Are appointments in asylum service which require a proficiency in cricket and football as good as they seem in the advertisement?" We may be able to tell you when you send us the advertisement, which is missing. If you have swallowed it, no matter.

MRS. K. (Sunderland).—Thus you: "I see by your book that there is a lady (M. P. L., Kilburn) looking for a Dickens Fellowship. I should like to know if it is anyone related to my first husband, as they called him Dickens." The Dickens the lady inquired after was a bookmaker. Who and what the Dickens was the Dickens you are after?

X. (Ipswich).—Where "to apply for clerical work to fill in your spare time"? Surely, among local people or through a local newspaper.

"ANTI-FAT."—Cannot give you any information about Anna Mason's Fat Cure. If your fat is insupportable and inclined to boil in the sun, consult a doctor; but he may tell you that some people would put on flesh even if they were dieted on firewood.

F. J. S. (Shepherd's Bush).—Hello, you also? It appears that though you took Anna Mason's Fat Cure for eight weeks you were 4 lbs. heavier when you finished than when you started. Thanks for the sample tabloids. They look like pebbles on the beach. We offered them to our dog and he refused them with spurnery.

£50 for a lady. A Mauve Coupon wanted. See page 27.

"ABERDEEN READER."—Yes, Scotch competitors "may win the first, second or third prizes in the Bullets Competition." But we hope they will leave *one* of the prizes for the rest of the kingdom.

MISS R. B. (Upton Park).—What do we "think of a private asylum which charges any amount for the patients and yet treats them more like convicts than ladies and gentlemen"? Lots.

J. T. (Maghull).—After telling us that our paper is "not worth a damn," you ask us for full information about civil pensions and the people who draw them. Go to!

C. McC. (Catford).—Sorry we cannot tell you which is the best place to sell an elephant's foot. If you had wanted to know where to sell a rabbit's skin we could have helped you.

E. S. (Bootle).—If you do not know who you are it grieves us to say we cannot tell you, but if you were born in Richmond in 1887 or 1889, Somerset House ought to elucidate your parentage. "As I am going to be married," you say, "I cannot afford writing to different places." Sorry we are unable to save you money in postage stamps.

A. V. B. (Maida Vale, W.).—Yes, the recipes of the various patent medicines sold to you for sixpence, in Hyde Park the other Sunday, are substantially correct, but they are the analyses of other people. He has apparently got them from a well-known book first published many years ago.

N. R. H. (Merritt, Canada).—We have spoken to the copy-reader concerned, in severe accents.

"SCOT" (Beith).—We note that "Asturel," the impudent zodiacopal charlatan practising from a postal box at Amsterdam, advises you to accept his offer "seeing the restless vibrations you are labouring under." Restlessly vibrate his printed claptrap in the fire.

H. T. S. (S. Devon).—Ladies first, as always! Our apologies for the lapse of good manners on the part of our cricket-competition judge.

F. H. C. (Southend).—When sending a claim for successful numbers, we must, of course, insist on having sufficient of the cover to identify the date of issue.

"ARGYLE" (Plymouth) tells us that for three years he has been connected with the English Record Company, which we lately criticised, and speaks of its business in the highest terms. We are glad to hear this; but, on the other hand, there are others whose experience has been very different.

E. D. (Putney).—Thanks for the information you volunteer to our recent correspondent, "G. H. D." (Lee), that Miss Brown, of 13, Park Road, New Wandsworth, might be able to assist him in placing his old father in a seaside home for a short time, on nominal terms.

THE SANITAS ELECTRICAL COMPANY, LTD. (61, New Cavendish Street, W.), write—in reference to our recent article, "The 'Chain Gang' Again!"—that the Protean Pirates of Portsmouth, Messrs. Henry Michaels and Co., of Pearl Buildings, were merely the agents for the "Blo," "Vibrax," "Penetrator" and "Vibrofix," and, following enquiries, they insisted on goods supplied being at once paid for. They rather take exception to the description of their apparatus as "weird," but another glance at the illustrations sent out by Michaels confirms us in the use of the expression—which might also have been fittingly applied to the names.

F. S. C. (Ipswich) AND OTHERS.—We are not medical experts and cannot, therefore, express an opinion upon the merits of the various "eye treatments."

"IMP." (Kennington).—Probably you did right in advising the girl not to go into the service of the proprietor of the *Cafe du Globe*, Dunkirk, at 30 frs. a month, boarded and lodged. The truth of the statement in his letter to her that "with our mode of tips in France I must say my previous barmaids have made very good earnings," depends solely on what happens to be the mode.

"TALENT ONLY" (Holloway, N.).—We don't. According to you, "a music-hall artiste beginning, even a genius, don't seem to stand an earthly if he is poor." There are compensations, don't forget. The geniuses being all dead, possibly they stand a Heavenly.

W. G. (Liverpool.—If the Standard Art Book Club, Paternoster Row, London, E.C., wish you to deposit £10 with them as a condition of your becoming their local canvasser on commission, let them keep their job, and you keep your money.

C. W. J. (Chester).—Our columns have been so eloquent with complaints of the treatment accorded to third-classers on Canadian boats that we do not like to advise you which to choose. Perhaps some of our readers can assist you.

"CANCER" (London).—Mr. Douglas Macmillan, Hon. Secretary of the Society for the Prevention and Relief of Cancer, 15, Ranelagh Road, Belgravia, informs us that if any of our readers care to refer their inquiries on the subject of alleged cancer cures to him, the Society "will be glad to give their best services."

MRS. J. S. (Battersea).—On former occasions we have expressed our opinion that the bonus tea system of Messrs. Cowen and Sons, 3A, Tiverton Mansions, 140, Gray's Inn Road, London, E.C., is not one in which you or anybody else should place implicit trust. It does not surprise us at all that though you have been purchasing this tea since February, 1911, you are as far off the bonus as ever. Your turn may come in the year 2011; or it may not.

MISS H. (Lerwick).—Why should you think the preparations of Roman Solvene, Ltd., "may interest us"? We are not a lady, and we have no whiskers to get rid of. The concern is two men named Neale and Atkins, both audacious Yankee quacks, who live out of silly people, male and female.

S. P. (Ramsgate).—"Bishop" Mathews said the Anglican Church was known to a great number of Catholics as "Old Mother Damnable"—not us. You state you and your friends never heard of it till it was mentioned in the libel case. Nor had we.

MRS. E. (Newport, Mon.).—Glad you were dissuaded from sending any money to the Mills Warehouse Company, Bradford, by reading what we said about them.

"SPACE BAND" (Sheffield).—As a printer's reader, you think we ought to drop "Biscuits" from our columns, as they place many a man's bread and butter in jeopardy. You are too sensitive. We have no doubt editors and proprietors consider them a good advertisement, and taking these amusing printer's slips in good part, and have not done any hurt.

T. E. (Nottingham).—The Education Committee are not bound to give you any reason why they refuse to exempt your son, 13 on March 30th, "at present." As they say, "you may apply again in three months' time," all the advice we can give you is to take them at their word.

A. J. (Watney Street).—Don't see how we can help you. If the stall holders are really harried by the police, why not join them in a petition to the Watch Committee?

MR. F. (Hornsey).—You are by no means the only dissatisfied competitor in Watson's Soap Wrapper Competition, but it is impossible to judge whether the firm has been "underhanded" without entering into a special investigation, as to which we do not think many of our readers will feel interested.

MRS. I. T. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—Parker and Sons, recently trading in Newcastle and now in Cardiff as The Amalgamated Tea Co., are on the same game as Cowen and Sons (see above). You have now taken their tea 3½ years and your turn has not arrived yet. Be patient. The Millennium is coming.

G. B. (Harrow).—We agree with your solicitor that the post-card sent to you by Jerome and Co., 83-87, Fleet Street, E.C., is actionable. They are notorious for this shady way of disposing of their seeds, that is to say, by getting children, as their sale agents, by means of alluring advertisements. The letter of apology you received is the stereotyped reply in all such cases. If you commenced an action for libel they would probably receive an expensive judicial lesson.

M. J. (Croydon), tells us of a sweating local drapery establishment, and alleges that the young lady assistants go on duty at 8.45 a.m. and work continuously until 8.45 p.m., with the exception of 1½ hours for meals. On Saturday, by way of a change, the girls work an hour-and-a-half extra. We must look the firm up.

K. B. (Clapham) complains that Mrs. Hunt's Registry Office charged her mistress 7s. for supplying her with a servant, and has now issued a summons against herself for 3s. It is true, we believe, that the custom is to charge nothing to domestics, but perhaps Mrs. Hunt stipulated to the contrary.

T. L. (Edmonton).—The envelope posted in London on April 3rd and delivered to you on June 18th is hieroglyphicised beyond our comprehension. Seems to us as though one of the office-boys at the P.O. has been playing on it with indiarubber stamps.

"NEMO" (London).—Your thrilling lines apropos of the late Poet Laureate, "The poems he wrote are now left behind, Was some times full of laughter, Although he has gone his words remain, Other poets come after," have been spurned into the W.P.B., and may presently wrap up a ha'porth of cat's meat.

R. J. B. (Newton Abbot).—There is nothing to complain of in the circular. Knocke-sur-Mer is a quiet, invigorating little watering place in Belgium, and £4 for 15 days there, including travel, is about as reasonable as can well be. By-the-way, while you are at Knocke you can arrange a visit to Damme.

"FIGGY" and "DARKEY" (Mile End) are two newspaper vendors who wish to know "why paper vendors in the district of Aldgate should work for other people at 3½d. a quire when the right price is 4½d." Can anybody tell them?

F. E. (Gateshead).—"Country Wife to Husband: 'What's all this mean, about Ulster arming?' Husband: 'Oh, it's only a new method of practising Bullets.'" Ha! Ha!

(A large number of replies are held over.)

"Bullets"—Another Twenty Holiday Prizes of £5 each offered this week.

Bull's Eyes.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION :—

Why can't the Labour Party "work" together?

Is Harry Lauder *always* a very solemn 'un on Sundays?

Is it surprising that Lloyd George is feeling "run down"?

Aren't both political parties "cultivating" the land just now?

Doesn't the Home Rule Bill mean "a good deal" for Ireland?

Haven't the *Titanic* owners a "pay-in-full" ordeal to face?

Will the Balkan Allies be satisfied with what they can "get"? ("Everybody's Getting It." Getting What? See page 35.)

Didn't the French President meet with a "waive" of enthusiam?

Did Alexandra Day cause the regular flower-girls to "go off" or "go on"?

Can the Liberal Party possibly "benefit" by the Insurance Act?

* * *

BLESSINGS IN DISGUISE :—

When the sailor gives his parrot to a deaf aunt.

When you back a loser, and forget to post the letter.

When the slavey next door breaks the phonograph records.

When you can't sleep, and think out a winning "Bullet."

When the farmer's wooden leg helps him to plant the cabbages.

When you are with your best girl, and the electric light fails.

When a wasp stings on the lip that young man learning the cornet.

When a cold prevents Madame Screecher from appearing at the concert.

When the car breaks down, and you have tea with a pretty country lass.

* * *

WELLERISMS :—

"Unlettered," said the lost stamp.

"I spare no panes," said the Suffragette.

"A scratch team," said the performing fleas.

"Chase me," said the locket to the engraver.

"Stirring times," rang the five o'clock tea bell.

"Completely gutted," said the newly strung fiddle.

"A glass stopper," said the inebriate of the temperance ranter.

"It's all 'over,'" said the foreigner when asked his opinion of the cricket-match.

* * *

EXAMINATION PAPERS SET FOR MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL :—

Give the origin of the phrase, "Chase me, Charlie."

Is it possible to catch an Admiral Butterfly in a torpedo net?

Could a foreigner touch British Tar without getting into a mess?

State the approximate cost of the German Band in the European Concert.

Describe the best way to escape from bores. State which is best for the Navy—grog or waterplanes.

What is the safest margin to have in the Estimate Book, after the Maple Leaf has been turned down?

Who said "We must have eight"? and is it possible to manipulate two Dreadnoughts to form that figure?

* * *

THE LATEST "HOWLERS" :—

Perjury is any kind of pills or stomach physic.

Nil Desperandum means don't give in till you come down to nil.

A centurion is a slogger who makes over a hundred runs at cricket.

Automobile is sickness brought on through a motor car that ought to go slower.

A triangle is three lines knocked together at the corners, and pointed at the top like a church steeple.

Amphibious animals are those that live in the water, and come on land once a week for their grub.

Parallel means two of anything that keep the same distance apart on any line for ever and ever.

There have been several Queen Marys. One had a name which is a wicked swear-word: and one was married to Sir Walter Scott.

Venus is a star fixed very high up, and can only be seen when it twinkles. This name is also given to statues cut out of marble with nothing on.

Henry VIII. was so called because he had eight wives; not altogether, but one after the other. He had ginger hair, but I've heard father say he had a blue beard.

* * *

"Money is a cure for everything nowadays," we read. Yes, a "sovereign" remedy.

* * *

A writer about Germany says that the Kaiser likes his job. So would some other people.

* * *

A rise in Rubber seems still more remote; all the "bounce" is gone out from the "bawl."

That earthquake shock has, so far, not been attributed to the Suffragettes.

* * *

"Boy Scouts in a new rôle," we read. What disguises will they invent next?

* * *

A leech foretells rain, we are told. And bloodsuckers often precede liquidation.

* * *

The fire brigade has a hard job the other day; a waterproof factory caught fire.

* * *

A man claims to have used one razor for fifty-three years. About time it edged off.

* * *

"Most women are inaccurate," says a writer. But some of them are a bit of all right.

* * *

Maiden Erlegh, the favorite, came in nowhere in the Hunt Cup. Maiden Erlegh was late.

* * *

"Patchwork Comedy," is the name of a new book. The critics will only pick it to pieces.

* * *

A magistrate says that no dogs should be allowed in London. Bill Sikes cordially agrees.

* * *

Enterprising Egyptians are now manufacturing imitation mummies. A "dead" swindle.

* * *

"Keep your temper," is advice given to young cricketers. Yes, it is fatal to get "put out."

* * *

"Is talking a sign of savagery?" asks a contemporary. Most of it is not very ab-original.

* * *

The Eton cricket team dismissed for no runs must have played a very "in and out" game.

* * *

Cinema films of the French Parliament are to be taken. Every motion will be "negatived" that day.

* * *

There is a great need for women dentists, we are told. But they could never learn to hold the jaw.

* * *

The pawnbroker who has just become a Church Army cadet is sure to take interest in his new career.

* * *

Kissing a girl was described at Greenwich as disorderly conduct. Perhaps it was a "chased" salute.

* * *

"Statue unveiled by cable," we read. Nothing to the figures that have been unveiled by wireless lately.

* * *

The French barber who advertises for "a lady with coffee-and-milk-coloured hair," is particular to a shade.

* * *

The last nights of "The Dancing Mistress" are announced. Is the public getting tired of "sitting it out"?

* * *

A female orang-outang in America has died of a broken heart. Evidently deceived by one of those monkey Nuts.

* * *

"Englishwomen find difficulty in sauntering gracefully," says a writer. Yes, their "gait" is an awkward "style."

* * *

In Australia, one in every three people has a banking account. The percentage of "no-account" persons here is greater.

* * *

After a sensational finish, Hampshire lost to Surrey by five runs. There was a Hitch the losers had not reckoned upon.

* * *

Tay Pay thinks every M.P. should learn "the leading principles of law." What about the "leading" principles of Party politics?

* * *

Immediately following some comments on the Marconi Report, the *Express* prints: "The white washing skirt is in great demand this summer." They must have a humorist on the staff.

* * *

OUR DREAM BOOK :—

If a schoolmaster dreams of a bee-sting N.N.E. of his thigh, it is a sign that his boys are preparing a long pin.

If you dream that a cannon-ball shot you into the middle of next week, you will win a "Bullet" one Wednesday—sooner or later.

To dream that your clerk is drinking champagne, your porter is in a box at Covent Garden, and your office-boy buying roses—means that your books need auditing.

If you dream that you are being drawn backwards through ice-cold water, and innumerable snakes are stabbing you with red-hot venom—it's time you signed the pledge.

Splendid Gold Nibbed Fountain Pens for "John Bull" readers. See page 29.

SEND IN YOUR ENTRIES NOW. SECOND COUPON.

£1,000!

FOR ALL FORECASTS CORRECT.

The Biggest Cricket Prize Offer made by any Paper

WE offer the above mammoth cash prizes for cricket skill. As will be seen below, the conditions are so easy that every reader has the opportunity of winning—simply by exercising their knowledge of the great summer game. The second coupon appears this week. Don't delay. Send in your entries now. A special prize of £50 is again offered for a "Mauve" coupon.

£150 For Nearest Forecasts Short of Full Number.

£75 For Next Highest.

£50 For a Mauve Coupon.

£1,000 will be paid to the competitor sending us an Entrance Form giving a correct forecast of all the matches given. In the unlikely event of no entrance form being received containing all the correct forecasts, we shall award the huge sum of **£150 IN CASH** to the competitor sending most correct forecasts, even if the number be only 8 or 10. *In addition* we shall award **£75 IN CASH** to the competitor sending in the next highest number of correct forecasts.

You can send in as many entries as you like. Any number of entries may be enclosed in the same envelope.

Friends can send their entries together in one envelope, but EVERY coupon must be signed in ink by its respective sender.

The competition is one of skill, and we recommend readers to study the cricket columns of the daily papers.

As a guide to competitors we give with the coupon on page 2 of cover last year's results of the matches we have selected for this competition.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO.

On page 2 of our cover you will find a coupon giving matches which will be played on dates between July 14th and July 28th.

Cross out in ink the club you think will *lose*. If you predict a draw do not cross out either club.

Matches commenced and unfinished count as draws. If both sides score an equal number of runs the match will be regarded as being drawn

Matches not commenced at all, not a single ball being bowled, will be ignored. Thus—

ABANDONED MATCHES MAKE NO DIFFERENCE.

READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.

1. On the Entrance Form on page 2 of our cover cross out in ink by running a pen through the names, the clubs you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either club.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "JOHN BULL," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., mark envelope in top left-hand corner, Cricket Competition, NO. 4. so as to reach us not later than first post Monday, July 14th, but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.

3. The £1,000 cash prize will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results of all the matches, as published in the "Sporting Life."

4. In the event of no Entrance Form containing all the correct results, £150 will be awarded to the sender of the Entrance Form containing the largest number of correct forecasts, short of the full number, and £75 to the sender of the next highest number of correct forecasts.

THE COUPON

will be found

ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER.

£50 Cash

FOR A

"MAUVE" Coupon.

Our Special Cricket Prize for a "Mauve" Coupon has proved so popular that once more we offer £50 for the Best Forecasts received from a Lady using a "Mary Bull" "Mauve" Coupon. We invite all our lady readers to enter, and every male reader of "John Bull" should extend our invitation to his own particular lady friends. What a splendid surprise for the wife, daughter, sister or fiancee our special £50 prize cheque would be! Remember, a "Mauve" Coupon has an equal opportunity of carrying off the £1 000, or the contingent prizes of £150 and £75. The £50 lady's prize is a distinct and extra award. The second "Mauve" Coupon is in "Mary Bull," on sale Friday, July 4th. Don't miss it.

READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.

In addition a distinct cash prize of £50 will be awarded to the lady sending most correct forecasts on a MAUVE COUPON taken from MARY BULL.

5. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received.

6. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to this competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

7. Any effort on which an alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

8. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition the £1,000 prize or the contingent prizes of £150 and £75, as well as the special £50 ladies' prize, will be equally divided. Should more than two competitors tie for the £150, the right is reserved to annul same the two contingent prizes of £150 and £75.

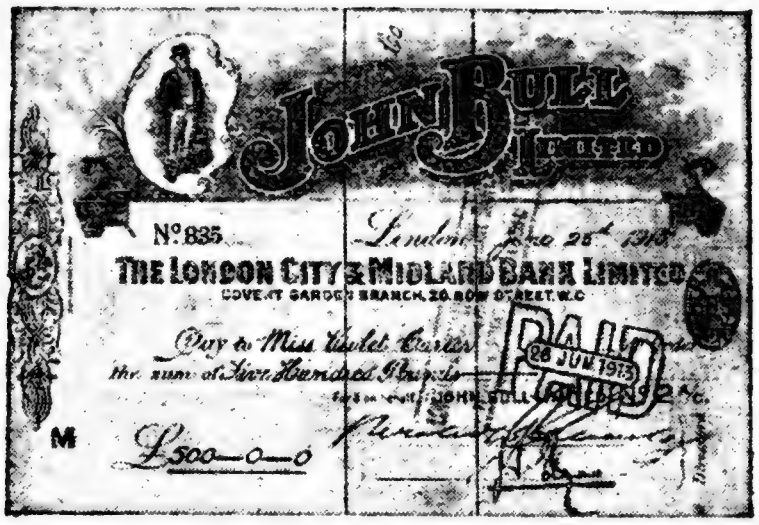
After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 34 where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £500 in cash is offered this week, in addition to more than 5 000 cash an other valuable prizes.

AN OPPORTUNITY YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS.

OUR 36TH "BULLETS" COMPETITION.

A STRANGELY-FORMED ACQUAINTANCESHIP BRINGS A LADY £500.

Miss Violet Carter, of 31, Venn Street, Clapham, S.W., the winner of our 36th "Bullets" Competition, in expressing her delight at receiving the cheque for £500—which, indeed, reached her before she had seen the paper containing the announcement of her success—tells us that she was tempted to enter because several of her friends had won prizes. Miss Carter is a handsome



Australian lady, and has no bashfulness in disclosing to us her age as 25. She has travelled in all parts of the world except America, and her ambition to visit that interesting continent will now be realised. Her acquaintanceship with JOHN BULL was formed by picking up a copy at the foot of a pyramid near Cairo about four years ago. In the olden times, of course, the Sphinx would have told her that it was to bring her good fortune, but in these days "miracles never happen."

The original of the above cheque will be shown at the premises of Mr. J. T. Orage, 174, High Street, Clapham, until July 4th, and thence at those of "The C. S. S.," 358, Clapham Road, S.W., until July 8th. The cheque for the second prize of £50 will be exhibited by Messrs. W. Squire and Son, Custom House Buildings, Lowestoft, until July 10th.

Elsewhere we publish an announcement concerning the *Competitors' Journal*. This is not a sheet issued by a solution-monger, but a weekly paper edited by Mr. Arthur C. Findon, a well-known journalist, who offers competitors in all newspaper competitions advice and help which should give them fresh encouragement in their efforts to win prizes. . .

OUR OWN ALMANAC.

JULY.

Once more we plan our holidays,
While striving to keep cool,
And dream of rivers, lakes, and bays,
To visit after JUL.

Oh! bless'd vacation, happy state,
When freed from shop or stool!
Well, now we haven't long to wait,
For here we are in JUL.

Yet there is one fact faces us,
As stubborn as a mule—
'Tis hard to fix a holiday
When short of cash in JUL.

When money came we failed to save,
And now we feel a fool;
If half the year we misbehave,
We feel the pinch in JUL.

Well, let our uncle help us out;
He's willing, as a rule,
If we deposit up the spout
Each jewel of ours in JUL!

RICARDO.

AN APPEAL TO EVERY

BULLET COMPETITOR

WHO IS NOT A SUBSCRIBER TO THE GREAT 20-PAGE WEEKLY. THE

'COMPETITORS' JOURNAL'

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,

Nearly four months ago I started a little weekly paper under the above title. My object in doing so was to provide the great competition loving public with an organ that would not only help them to win prizes and keep them in touch with the doings of the competition world, but would protect them from the numerous fraudulent solution mongers and others who prey upon competitors in every conceivable way.

I am glad to say that so far as advice is concerned I have been very successful, for my correspondence shows me that with the help of the "Journal" readers have won prizes for the first time in their lives. Even as I pen these words a letter arrives from a subscriber, Mr. M. J. Freney, of Dublin, who tells me he has won "Answers" second prize of £75 this week. He adds: "Like hundreds of other competitors I have come to look on the 'C.J.' as absolutely essential to would-be prize winners." So far as the fraudulent solutionists go I am glad to say *that through repeated attacks in the "Journal" four of the biggest quacks in the business have retired!*

But the few thousand subscribers I have are not enough. If I am to put my paper on a satisfactory basis I must have many more. The "C.J." is full of hints and helps. It has been praised by "John Bull," "Ideas," and hundreds of competitors. Knowing it can be of service to you, I confidently ask every "Bullet" competitor to do his or her share in supporting it. Three half-pence a week, post free, is all I ask. For this I give you 20 pages of interesting matter, which cannot fail to be useful.

Yours truly,

ARTHUR C. FINDON, Editor.

"John Bull" says: "Can hardly fail to be useful."
"Ideas" says: "Deals very frankly with competitions."

The *C. J.* will be sent weekly post free:—

6 months 3/-
3 months 1/6
1 month ... . 6d.

} Only subscribers for 3 months or more can take advantage of our great Advisory Scheme.

THE COMPETITORS' JOURNAL, 20, Piccadilly Mansions, Piccadilly Circus, London, W. 'Phone: 1765 Regent.

THE MASCOT

W. J. HARRIS & CO., LTD.

Our exclusive 1913 Model.

Carriage Paid. No extras whatever. Coach painted in Claret, Dark Green or Navy Blue. Wired on Tyres. All kinds on Easy Terms.

Write for our No. 14 Art Catalogue.

51, RYE LANE, LONDON, S.E.

And Numerous Branches.

THE LIVERPOOL VICTORIA INSURANCE CORPORATION LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: 45-49, HOLBORN VIADUCT, LONDON, E.C.

Subscribed Capital £421,408. Paid up Capital £125,332.
Premium Income £129,436.

LIFE, FIRE, ACCIDENT, MOTOR, BURGLARY, PLATE GLASS, &c.
Agency Applications invited.

£20 A MONTH

operating the NEW MODEL COMBINATION CAMERA. It takes and instantly develops eleven entirely different styles of pictures, including two sizes and four styles PAPER POST CARDS six styles of Tintype Pictures and Brooch Pictures. Requires no experience whatever. Everybody wants pictures. Five Hundred per cent. profit. THE WORLD'S BIGGEST MONEY-MAKER. Small investment secures complete outfit, including Camera, Tripod, and material for 150 pictures. Make money the first day, no matter where you live or what you are doing. Detailed information free, including letters from prosperous operators everywhere.

L. LASCELLE, Manager, 8, Bouverie St., Dept. 227, London, E.C.

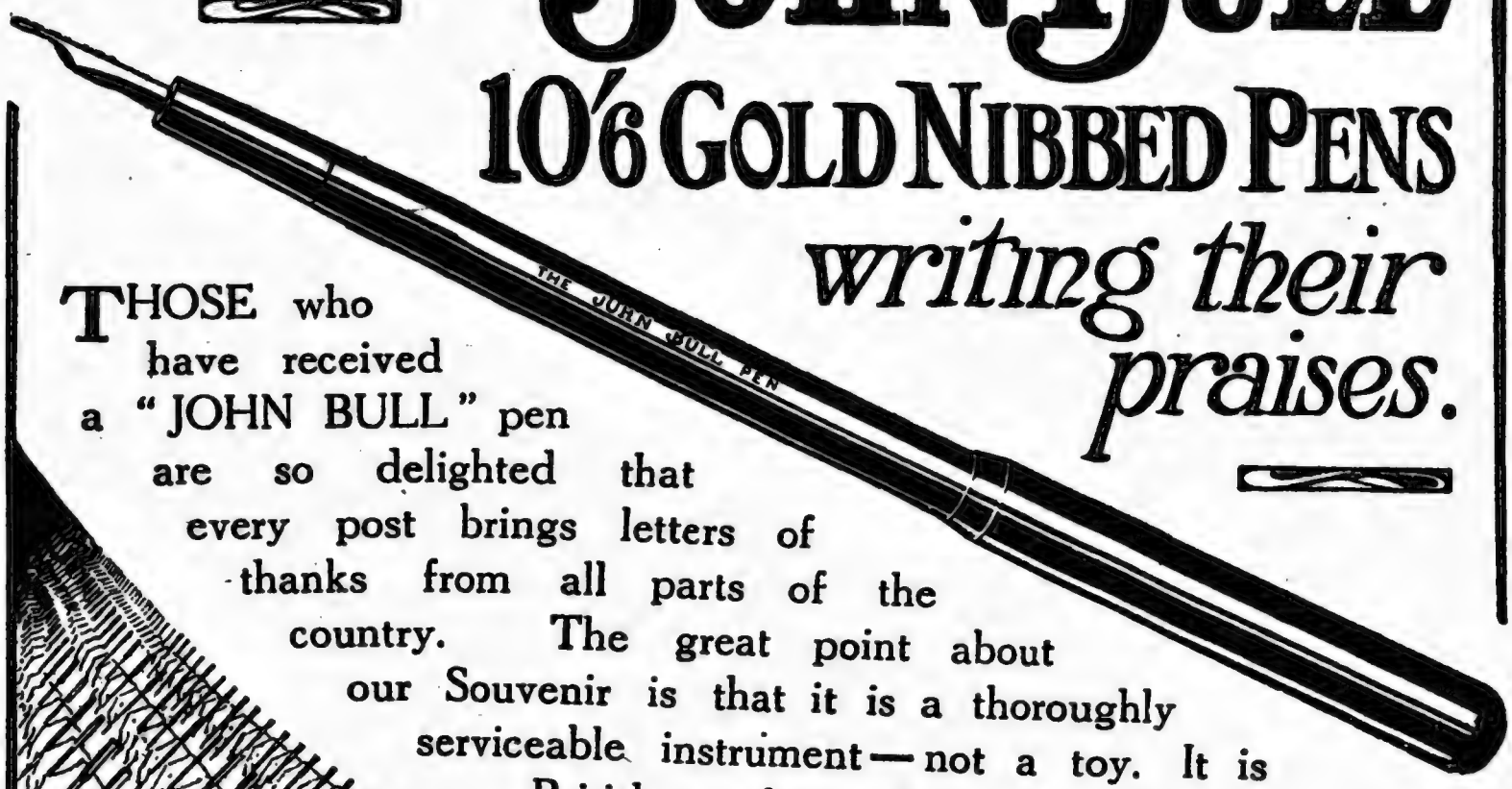
WANTED

MEN TO LEARN BIOSCOPE OPERATING.

For particulars, call or write Secretary.

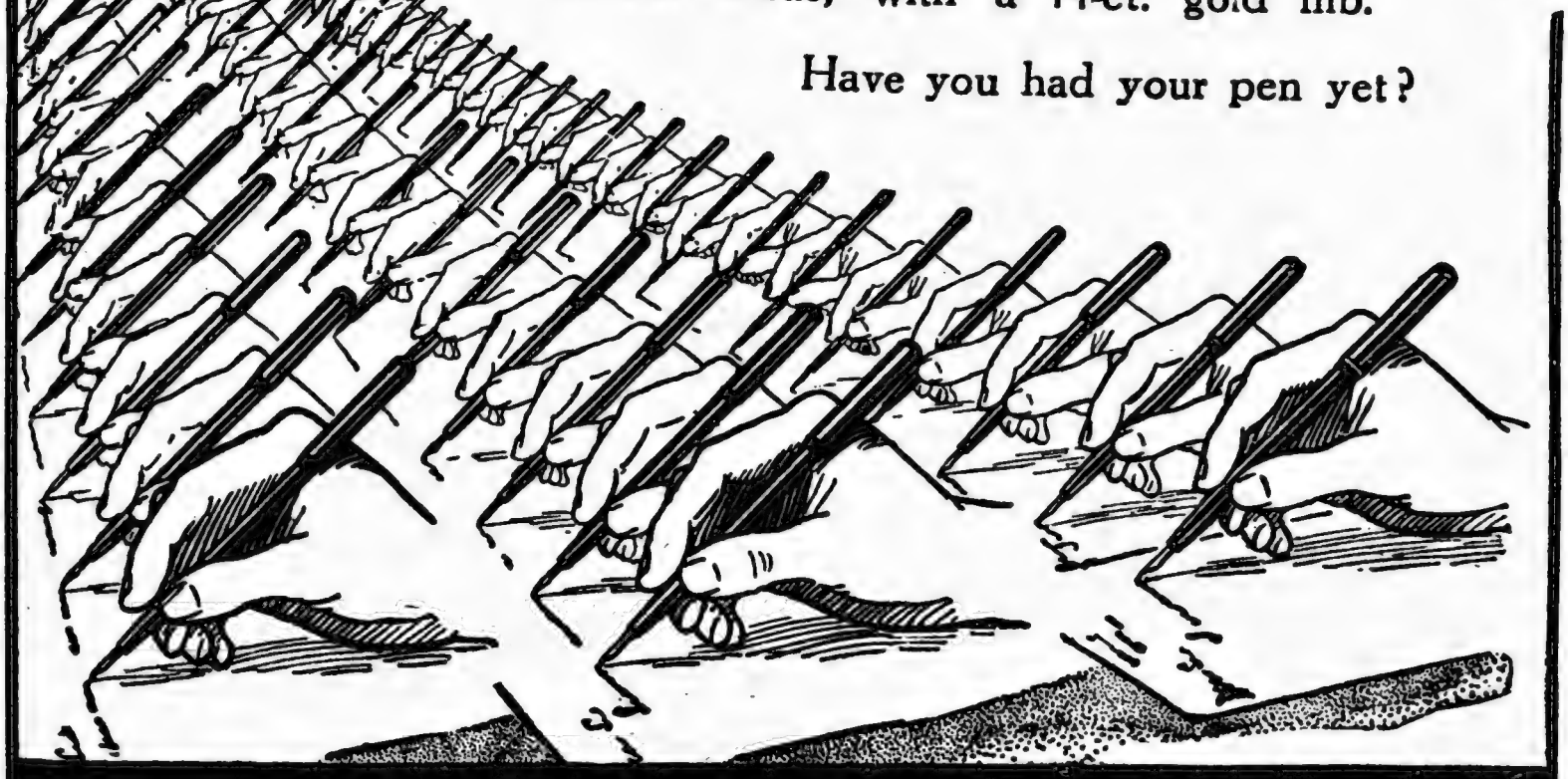
BRITISH BIOSCOPE SCHOOL,
5 (Five), New Oxford Street, W.C.

Thousands of JOHN BULL 10/6 GOLD NIBBED PENS *writing their praises.*



THOSE who have received a "JOHN BULL" pen are so delighted that every post brings letters of thanks from all parts of the country. The great point about our Souvenir is that it is a thoroughly serviceable instrument—not a toy. It is British made, with a 14-ct. gold nib.

Have you had your pen yet?



THIS OFFER IS OPEN FOR YOU.

Every week a coupon will be found in "JOHN BULL" similar to that on page 3 of the cover of this issue. A similar coupon will also appear weekly in "MARY BULL." One coupon entitles the holder to obtain one of our splendid "JOHN BULL" Gold-Nibbed Fountain Pens for 2/6, but each additional coupon up to twelve will count as one penny off the cost of the pen. You may save the coupons from either paper until you have twelve more (any dates), sending thirteen in all, and p.o. for only 1/6 (with ½d. stamp for postage) to Pen Dept., "JOHN BULL," Long Acre, London, W.C.

CITY NOTES.

[*For Financial and Insurance Letter Box, see page* 32.]

The Stock Markets.

As we anticipated, matters are at last beginning to right themselves, after further drastic liquidation. The outlook is now more hopeful, as with the turn of the half-year money has become cheaper in all the principal centres, and the dreaded half-yearly settlements have all been surmounted without open trouble. There is no doubt that quotations are now on a bedrock basis, and only a fresh Balkan upheaval could check the improvement which is developing in most departments. This is, in fact, the opportunity for investors to pick up great bargains such as have not been going for many years. Paris has been favourably impressed by the De Beers dividend announcement of 20s. per share, and this should give our French neighbours fresh heart for launching out in other directions. Copper and Tin are being played with by the Bears. Nigerian Tin shares appear to be shaking themselves free from the effects of the fall in the price of the metal. Even with Tin at considerably below £200, these mines would still make big profits. Dramatic developments in connection with the Marconi Company have been taking place lately, and now it is stated that the Government will consent to the abrogation of last year's agreement, and negotiate a new agreement with the Marconi Company. This has been interpreted favourably in the market.

A "John Bull" Bank.

In our next issue we hope to be in a position to give particulars of a new and important banking enterprise, about to be established under the title of the "John Bull" Bank. Its object will be to extend banking facilities in various directions in which they do not at present exist, and its head offices will be situated in a central part of the City in the heart of the banking district. There can be no doubt that had there been expert management and control behind the Birkbeck Bank, the disaster which overtook that concern would never have occurred; and the new institution, under the experienced administration and with the unique facilities for profitable business which it will possess, should undoubtedly become a boon to the public and a source of substantial profit to its proprietary.

"For Public Information Only."

The statement issued by the Venezuelan Oil Concessions, Limited, is one of those specimens of "literature" which occupy a large portion of space in suppressing information vital to a proper appreciation of the enterprise. We are told, for instance, that the concession to be acquired was granted in 1907 to one General Antonio Aranguren, of Caracas. That's all so far as the history of the concession is concerned. We are not told what the General gave for it; through how many hands, and at what profit to each, it passed before it reached the Company; why it has apparently lain unworked for six solid years; and so on. True, it is stated that the advertisement is not to be taken as an invitation to subscribe for shares, but if it is not meant to invite the public to purchase shares from those who hold them at the moment, the expenditure of a large sum of money in advertising a project in which no one else except the promoters are to hold an interest seems a great waste.

"Nigger Bits."

Periodically there is an outcry that no mining company should be registered until the government of the country, in which its property is situated, had investigated its merits. The notion is, of course, absurd, for no one is able to guarantee the soundness of any such enterprise. Still, such guarantee was suggested by the fact that the Colonial Office has, for some years, been financing the Nigeria Bitumen Corporation, Limited, in its operations in West Africa. The result was that the £1 shares of the company were rushed, at one time, to over £3. The Colonial Office has now suddenly withdrawn its aid and the shares have dropped to sixpence, at which price they were "made up" last account. In this case, it has not been a case of Niggers Bit (which is the name given to the shares in the market), but it is the investor who has been landed with the shares, which, but for the sponsorship of the Government, he would, most probably, not have touched. Bearing in mind the scandal about the Anglo-Continental report, one is tempted to ask why West Africa appears to have been singled out by the Government for the introduction of measures which are not adopted in any other of our colonies—unless, of course, it is true that it proposes to take a hand in South African oil.

Bank of Egypt.

May we ask when the examination of Lords Milner, Rathmore, Grenfell, and the Hon. Sidney Carr-Glyn, directors of this bankrupt concern, is to take place? The announcement that these noblemen had been ordered to appear before Mr. Registrar Mansell was made more than a month ago, and we shall be glad to know if a sitting for their examination has yet been fixed. Shareholders have just received their first return of £2 5s. per £25 share, and it is estimated that a similar dividend towards the end of the year and a smaller one next year will complete the distribution. This would give them a total of, say, 5s. in the £; but even if they received back the par value of their shares, the examination of the directors should still take place. No one insinuates for a moment that the board has done anything incompatible with honour and probity; but there are many matters which require explanation in order to decide their liability—if any—in a civil action for the loss sustained by shareholders.

"Bottomley's Rubbish."

This was the title applied some years ago by the City Editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette* to the shares of the Great Boulder Proprietary Gold Mines, which, according to the statement of the chairman at the recent meeting, has returned its capital 23 times over in dividends! Oh, those City Editors!

Another "Pearl" Case.

In referring (in our issue of April 5th) to the Report of the Pearl Life Assurance Company, we repeated the opinion which has so frequently been expressed in these columns, that the manner in which the business of the company—as well as that of some of its competitors—is conducted bears hardly upon the poor of the community for which these institutions cater. Here is the latest case in point: Mrs. Jane Nixon, wife of John Nixon, of Lancaster, sued the company in the Leicester County Court some months ago for the return of certain premiums which she alleged had been obtained from her by agents of the company on fraudulent representations. The jury found for the plaintiff, but the Judge swept aside the verdict and entered judgment for the company. Mrs. Nixon appealed to the Divisional Court, which, while holding that there was evidence of fraudulent misrepresentation, affirmed the judgment in favour of the company, on the ground that Mrs. Nixon had been party to the fraud. Mrs. Nixon then appealed higher up, and the Court of Appeal has granted the appeal, confirming the verdict of the jury and holding that as the point of the alleged fraud of Mrs. Nixon had not been made in the County Court it should not have been entertained by the Divisional Court. In addition, the Lord Justices held that the defence of the company in the County Court was absolutely inconsistent with the position they took up later on. Mrs. Nixon's claim was for £27, and although the company will have to pay her "taxed" costs in all the courts, it is obvious that her total costs will swallow up the whole of the money to which she has been declared to be entitled. The public has a short memory, otherwise it is impossible to understand how a company can continue to collect premiums only to be declared not entitled to them when some poor dupes summon up sufficient courage to pursue them through all the courts of the realm.

Re-enter Taverner.

Daniel Tallerman and William Taverner, the one with his bogus food fake, and the other with his equally bogus Old Age Pension trick, always appear to exit from, and to return to the pursuit of dupes at the same time. For weeks we hear nothing of them, but as soon as one emerges into the lime-light, the other seems to follow. A fortnight ago, we chronicled the re-appearance of Tallerman. This week, Taverner claims attention. This hoary adventurer has the audacity to ask pecuniary support for the resuscitation of his old bubble, or rather for the establishment of a new one on much the same lines, to be called the Middle Age Pension Friendly Society. Its constitution differs from that of the National Old Age Pension Trust, now in liquidation, only so far as the latter undertook to pay its members out of funds contributed by themselves. Taverner's new fake goes one better. Without one penny in hand for the purpose, it proposes to confer upon its members the benefits to which they were entitled—but did not receive—from the old Trust! Surely there exists some authority in the land able to put a stop to this continued exploitation of the thrifty by a mendacious and canting hypocrite?

Worth trying for. £1,000 for Cricket Forecasts. See page 27.

: : Oil Within the Empire. : :

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

CONCERNING

THE CONSOLIDATED OIL FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA, LTD.

A SHARE POSSESSING ENORMOUS POTENTIALITIES.

Highly important news is just to hand from Johannesburg to the effect that the South African Government, having regard to the active interest shown by the Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa, Limited, in developing the Oil potentialities of the Ceres district, have decided to set aside a fund for the systematic investigation of properties upon which specific Oil indications are reported.

* * * * * *

Mr. E. H. Cunningham Craig, the British Government Oil Expert, has been commissioned by the South African Government to make a thorough inspection of reputed Oil-bearing districts in the Union, and he is now in South Africa for that purpose.

* * * * * *

As already stated in this page, Mr. J. E. MILLS-DAVIES, one of South Africa's leading geologists and mining engineers, has recently returned from an inspection of the properties in the Ceres district, Cape Province, controlled by the Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa, Ltd., and has reported most favourably regarding the Oil prospects.

* * * * * *

Mr. MILLS-DAVIES has just returned from a second visit to the properties, in company with a representative of the well-known engineering firm of Messrs. Fraser and Chalmers, of London and Johannesburg, and has arranged, with that firm, for boring operations to be immediately commenced under his personal supervision.

* * * * * *

Although the Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa has provided for ample capital, it is evident from the active interest in the Oil potentialities of South Africa now being taken by the South African Government, that the operations of this important pioneer Company would not be allowed to cease through lack of financial support, a successful issue being of vital interest to the Empire.

* * * * * *

The capital of the Company is £250,000, including £50,000 working capital.

* * * * * *

The Company is a parent undertaking, its policy being to dispose of Oil rights, over given areas, to subsidiary Companies, retaining a substantial interest in them.

* * * * * *

The potentialities of the Company are enormous. According to a leading American authority its £1 shares may easily attain the value of £200 from its Oil rights alone.

* * * * * *

Investors and others interested will be supplied with full particulars on application.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION SYNDICATE, LTD.
80, Coleman Street, London, E.C.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, *52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.*

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

CONSOLIDATED OIL FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA, LTD.—H. J. A. (Derby).—We should prefer to recommend you to increase your holding in this Company rather than invest in the undertaking of which you send us particulars.

METALITE, LTD.—LAURELDENE.—Hold the shares. A scheme of reorganisation is on foot, and, if carried through successfully, should place the Company in a sound position.

"JOHN BULL" PREFS.—GLOBE TROTTER.—Write to the secretary of the Company, 93, Long Acre, who will doubtless find you an immediate purchaser.

PREMIUM BONDS.—D. D. (Perth).—You can obtain full information from Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co., 10, Rue du 4 Septembre, La Bourse, Paris.

BANK.—F. B. (Clapton Park).—The institution you mention is quite sound.

MOTOR OWNERS' COMBINE.—A. T. J. (St. Albans).—Alone you can do very little; but if you can get some of the other large subscribers to join you it might be possible to get your money back. You will find it, however, rather a costly affair.

RHODESIANS.—H. R. (Southsea).—Some important developments are pending which will have a considerable and beneficial influence upon the future of the Company. Hold your shares.

£12,000 INVESTMENT.—CREST.—In the circumstances, your best plan is to invest the money in gilt-edged securities: Union of South Africa, issued at 100 and quoted at 1¾ discount; West Australian 4 p.c., issued at 98½, and quoted at ½ discount; Grand Trunk Railway Guaranteed 4 p.c. Stock at 86; Central Argentine 3½ p.c. Debentures at 85; Borough of Durban 4 p.c., issued at 97 and quoted at ¼ discount.

£80 INVESTMENT.—ENQUIRER (London Road).—Put the sum in London County Council 3 p.c. stock, which is the most suitable of the two stocks mentioned.

OIL COMPANY.—INTERESTED.—The London and Maikop Oil Corporation has suspended operations for the present, pending results of deep wells being sunk by the Maikop Deep Drilling Company. The latter is making satisfactory progress, and if results actually come up to expectations, the former Company should also turn out trumps. At present, however, the shares have dropped out of the market lists.

SANDOW'S COCOA.—GLADIATOR.—The first accounts, to be made up to April 30, 1913, are not yet available, but, to judge from the course of the market in the Preference shares lately, the showing is likely to be anything but a favourable one. Of course, the first annual meeting has not yet been held. We will watch for the directors' report with much curiosity.

MOTOR PETROL.—C. W. G. F. (Ebury Bridge).—The feeling of the market is against this concern. If you hold the shares you will find some difficulty in disposing of them. If you are thinking of buying them—don't.

OUTSIDE BROKERS.—CANNY (Yorks).—When dealing with such people you must be prepared for such treatment. You may safely disregard their threats.

CHARTERED.—W. D. (Glasgow).—We think it should be worth while averaging Chartereds, especially on any further temporary reaction.

INVESTMENTS.—PUSS.—We place the proposed investments in the following order:—2, 5, 4, 6, 7, and 1. You must understand that there is always a certain risk attaching to industrial investments, and that, in order to minimise it, the investment should be spread over as many securities as possible. There is a possibility of an improvement in Local Loans stock, and you should not be in a hurry to sell. Greenwich Inlaid Linoleum shares are a fair industrial holding.

GRINDELL MATTHEWS WIRELESS TELEPHONE.—MRS. A. G. B. (Eastbourne).—We know of no market in these shares, which seem a quite unsuitable investment for one in your position, as the undertaking is apparently still in the experimental stage.

PLANET FRIENDLY ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—H. J. W. (Swindon).—Your complaint is that, having joined the State Insurance section of this Society, the manager living at Salisbury called upon you and stated that they had no knowledge of your membership, and could not, therefore, meet your request for sick pay. The agent, you say, is in possession of your stamped card for the third quarter, and a letter addressed by him to the head office in Birmingham has met with no response. All that we can do is to recommend the secretary of the Society to investigate your case and see that any payment you are entitled to is made forthwith.

NATIONAL STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—NAPPED.—If you are able to establish a selling interest in the book, the Company, notwithstanding the condition in the agreement that the appointment may be terminated by either party on seven days' notice being given, must not exercise its powers arbitrarily so as to deprive you of the assets you now possess, and which you say would realise twenty times the amount of the standing debit. In the event of resignation or dismissal being enforced on grounds which you may consider neither just nor reasonable, it would be prudent to take the advice of a solicitor.

INDUSTRIAL INDEMNITY CORPORATION.—A READER.—Yours is not the only complaint we have received respecting the methods of this Corporation, and we again invite the management to disclose their financial position by sending us, without delay, the last issued report and balance sheet. You had better renew the application you have made through a local solicitor.

ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH LAW LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION.—E. W. S. (Finchley).—We are inclined to agree with your view that the pamphlet entitled "Your Executors' Balance Sheet" is not in good taste, and we do not think that heads of families will be tempted to act upon the advice given to draw up an "executors' balance sheet" or an "executors' family revenue account," or that they will be induced to accept the advice to "face the situation squarely, just as your executors will have to do." Life assurance has been conducted in the past without resort to such objectionable methods.

IRISH UNITED ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—GENERAL MANAGER AND SECRETARY.—We note that the first quinquennial report will reach us "in due course." We were always under an impression that British offices were receiving a good deal of support in Ireland, and we are, therefore, surprised at the statement that "widespread dissatisfaction has long existed with the manner in which Irish insurance business has been hitherto monopolised by foreign offices." We observe that attention is called to the liberal benefits provided in the Society's tables, but we do not see where the liberality of benefit comes in in connection with the "endowments," the policy, as we understand it, only providing for the return of a proportion of the premiums paid in the event of death prior to the expiry of the term for which the policy was issued. We also fail to discover in the prospectus any provision for the issue of free paid-up policies or the payment of a cash surrender value in the event of a policy holder finding himself unable, after a few years, to continue the premium payments.

CITY AND COUNTY HOUSE PURCHASE CO.—J. A. H.—We are unable to recommend this House Purchase Company for the purposes of investment. It has not yet complied with the requirements of the Life Assurance Companies Act of 1909 by lodging £20,000 with the High Court of Justice as a security for certificate holders. Until it does so its position is not satisfactory, as it is almost certain that the Board of Trade will sooner or later take action against this and all similar Societies which have failed to comply with the Act above referred to.

PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE CO.—C. B. (Thornhill).—You accepted a Spare-Time Collectorship, but have not introduced any business either in the Industrial or Ordinary branches. You have, however, secured 36 members for them in connection with the National Health Insurance. When you signed the agreement you were asked to deposit £10 as security, or, in the alternative, to pay 2s. 6d. per annum, which you would be unable to claim back. Application having been made for the second payment of 2s. 6d., you have declined their request, with the result that your engagement has been terminated, and their consent to your acting as a representative of the "National Amalgamated Approved Society" is also withdrawn. You have received 1s. per head per year commission on the new members, and wish to know if you can claim further compensation. We are of opinion that you can, unless the Company can show that you specifically agreed, as a representative of the "National Amalgamated," to pay the fee of 2s. 6d. annually. As a Spare-Time Agent you have raised a most important issue as affecting the collectors of the Company, and you should unhesitatingly press your claim for compensation.——J. L. (Breconshire).—You had better ascertain from the Company if they are willing to pay a Cash Surrender Value or, in the alternative, to issue a Fully Paid Up Policy to the widow from the amount of premiums paid by her late husband.

REFUGE ASSURANCE CO.—RIGHTS RIGHTS (Clevedon).—Your wife insured the lives of your father and mother. The policies are issued in their names direct. You have been paying the premiums presumably on your wife's account. You had better ascertain from the Company who is recognised by them as the legal claimant. These assurances having been effected prior to 1909 are not deemed to be void by reason "that the name of the person interested or for whose benefit or on whose account the policy was effected was not inserted in the policy." It is clear, therefore, that you could not claim the return of the premiums paid.

NATIONAL GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—HARD HIT.—Unless you are able to prove that you were fraudulently deceived when applying for the shares, we fear that you will be compelled to meet the call of 5s. per share which has been made. The experience through which the Company has passed has been a most distressing one for the unfortunate shareholders. Taken over its entire career, we question whether a single penny of profit has ever been made.

NATIONAL BENEFIT TRUST.—CASTLE O' CLOUTS.—It is the usual rule that if money is borrowed interest must be paid for the accommodation. You do not give any sufficient reason why the subscriptions should be refunded, and unless the Company will pay you a cash surrender value or issue a fully paid-up certificate representing the actual amount paid in, you must continue paying the subscriptions to prevent the forfeiture of the bond. Why not accept the Company's offer and exchange the certificate for an endowment policy of life assurance?

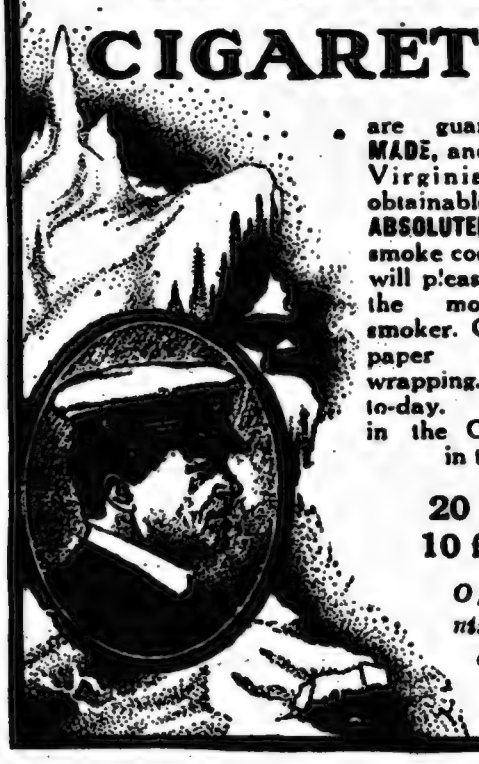
INSURANCE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—NOTICE TO OUR READERS.

Owing to the enormous number of enquiries we receive on Insurance matters, our readers will appreciate the difficulty which confronts us in giving prompt replies. Indeed, the congestion has become so great that we have decided to depart from the rule we have hitherto observed of replying only through this column, and to answer by post. Correspondents, therefore, who fail to find replies to their enquiries on this page may expect to hear from us by letter with as little delay as possible.

Pretty Summer Blouses given away. See "Mary Bull." On sale Friday.

Like the Iceberg — cool.

Captain Scott CIGARETTES



are guaranteed **HAND MADE**, and of the finest Virginian Tobacco obtainable. They are **ABSOLUTELY PURE**, they smoke cool always, and will please the palate of the most particular smoker. Only the purest paper is used for wrapping. Try them to-day. The value is in the Cigarettes—not in the Box.

20 for 9d.
10 for 4½d.

Of Tobacconists and Stores everywhere.

YOU must look out for yourself; no one else can do it for you. Look out for opportunity of promotion and better pay; but first for the means of qualifying yourself for them.

To-day is the day of the trained man; for the untrained there is no hope of success.

Do not take our word for what we say; we should not like you to do that. We offer you proof and want you to examine and criticise that proof.

We undertake to qualify you for success by making you a trained man. We are giving a sound, practical, up-to-date training to men and women throughout the Empire. Whether or not you feel the necessity of such a training it will surely interest you to examine into the method which has led thousands to success, and into the history of the greatest technical training institute in the world.

The I.C.S. Booklet, which we will send you, contains valuable practical advice on the chances and prospects for trained men in your own line of work, together with a full syllabus and specimen pages and illustrations from I.C.S. Instruction Papers of the I.C.S. Course best suited to your requirements, and a full account on what I.C.S. correspondence training really is, means, and has accomplished. Together with this booklet the testimony of prominent public men and employers, and of I.C.S. students to the practical and profitable nature of I.C.S. training.

The Seal of

SUCCESS

Write TO-DAY, mentioning the work in which you are engaged or interested to International Correspondence Schools, Ltd., 16d, International Buildings, Kingsway, London, W.C. Please use full address so as to avoid chance of delay.

The Winner of £1,000

The Editor of "JOHN BULL" on Feb. 1, stated:

"We have many times expressed satisfaction with Mr. H. Diamond's methods, and can assure our readers that from beginning to end each sweep promoted by him is absolutely straight, square, and above-board."

The "MIRROR of LIFE" on June 7th stated:—

"We can certify as to the equitable way in which they are carried out, and of the fairness in every particular of Mr. H. Diamond's sweepstakes."

The Winner of £200

LOUVOIS,

second in the Derby, was drawn by Mr. C. M. Davies, Whitby House, Priory Hill, Milford Haven. The £200 second prize was sent to him by registered letter on the Monday after the race.

MR. R. P. WEEKS, 50, Bailey Street, Brynmawr, Brecon, South Wales, drew "Aboyeur" in our Derby Sweep, and the first prize of £1,000 was sent to him by registered letter on the Monday after the race. The despatch of the money was supervised by the Special correspondent of "John Bull."

The Winner of £100

GREAT SPORT,

was drawn by Mr. H. Farley, c.o. W. A. Mutlow, Box 98, Post Office, Waterville, Quebec, Canada and the third prize of £100 was dispatched to him, by registered letter on Monday, June 9th, in the form of a Draft on the Royal Bank of Canada, made payable in Quebec.

H. DIAMOND LUCERNE SWITZERLAND

Letter Postage 2½p. Post Cards 1p.

"BULLETS"—FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

"Bullets" is the ideal Holiday Competition, and if you compete this week you have a splendid opportunity of securing one of our 20 SPECIAL HOLIDAY PRIZES OF £5 EACH.

Second Prize £50

FIRST PRIZE £500

Third Prize £25

TWENTY HOLIDAY PRIZES OF £5 EACH.

50 CASH PRIZES OF 10s. EACH. 100 CASH PRIZES OF 5s. EACH.

4,000 HANDSOME PRIZES VALUE £900

AND 1,000 CASH PRIZES OF 2s. 6d.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

A SOFT ANSWER
HUBBY'S HOLIDAY
LIBERTY OF SPEECH
PADDLING
SEASIDE PIERROTS
SECRET OF SUCCESS
MARRIAGE RITES
CAT AND MOUSE

FLAT CATCHING
ON THE SANDS
BRITISH TRADE
PAYING THE PIPER
BLACKPOOL
ALWAYS SOUGHT AFTER
SIGNOR CARUSO
A LITTLE DUCK

SOLD UP
THE NEW BABY
A POINTED REMINDER
NOTHING ON
OUR NEW CURATE
SOUR GRAPES
NO LAUGHING MATTER
FORGETTING HIMSELF

BLACK SHEEP
HEAVY SCORE
FOUND WANTING
DEPARTED SPIRITS
RAISING THE WIND
LEVEL CROSSING
A DIRTY TRICK
FOR EVER

PRESENTED AT COURT
HOOK MODESTY
MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE
PRESENT ARMS
FED UP
OVERCHARGED
RAPIDLY DECLINING
FEELING FOOLISH

"Bullets" is the leading skill competition with most prizes and is the ONLY Competition in which EVERY Coupon received is judged by TWO DIFFERENT ADJUDICATORS.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any one of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "ALways Sought After," and take the letters "L" and "A," using the word "by" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet, "Admiration by Ladies." Or from the example, "Sour Grapes," the Bullet "Seldom Gathered" can be formed. Again, if you take the example, "PAying the Piper," using the letter "A" as initial for both the first and the last word, you can form the Bullet "After Holiday Awkward."

Competitors may send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.

The ink will not run if the coupon is lightly warmed before being used.

Competitors can see The "Bullets" Judges at work at any time.

Closing date, Wednesday, July 9th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(40) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 35.

Signed _____

Address _____

_____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL," dated July 12th.

Closing date, Wednesday July 9th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(40) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 35.

Signed _____

Address _____

_____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 40." "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

No element of chance enters into the adjudication of our "Bullets" Competition. Every coupon is judged by TWO DIFFERENT Members of our special staff of Adjudicators, who have been selected by reason of their high qualification for this work. This staff put aside all coupons which they consider sufficiently meritorious to qualify for a prize. So that, before any coupon is rejected, TWO DIFFERENT Judges have to decide that it is not of sufficient merit to receive a prize. Then, all coupons selected are considered by the Competition Editor in consultation with the Judges. In this manner the coupons are reduced in number to correspond with the total number of prizes to be awarded. The Competition Editor, again in consultation with the Judges, next selects all the lines of outstanding merit. These are placed before the Editor, who, after consultation, decides finally the order of merit for the cash prizes. This system of judging keeps a large staff of Adjudicators continually occupied the whole of the week—so thoroughly is the work done. We would point out that, by this system of judging, no award is decided arbitrarily by one mind. It is only after a line has been considered sufficiently meritorious by a BODY OF JUDGES IN CONSULTATION, all of whom are specially qualified for the work, that it can receive a cash or any other prize. As regards the principal prizes, the coupons of outstanding merit are considered many times by the Editor, and also by the Competition Editor and the adjudicating staff, in consultation, before the final awards are made. In a sentence, ALL coupons are read and considered, and re-read and re-considered, by a specially selected staff of highly-qualified Adjudicators, under the general supervision of an experienced Competition Expert—and in consultation with the Editor. That is why "Bullets" constitute a genuine skill contest, free from any and every element of arbitrary decision or of chance selection.

The Result of the above Competition will appear in our issue dated July 26th.

RESULT OF 37TH BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £500:—

MR. D. GRAINGER,
4, Alexandra Street,
Partick, Glasgow.

Example.—A CRYING SHAME.
Bullet.—HEATHENS BEFORE SLUMS.

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:—

MR. WILLIAM R. ETTRICK,
51, Southmoor Road, Oxford.

Example.—A WINNING SMILE.
Bullet.—MADE JULIUS SEIZER.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25:—

MISS CONSTANCE M. HOLLOWAY,
c.o. Messrs. Parnell and Co.,
Millinery Dept.,
Mare Street, Hackney, N.E.

Example.—GOOD GRACIOUS.
Bullet.—AT BILLINGSGATE UNKNOWN.

20 SPECIAL HOLIDAY PRIZES of £5 Each to:—

Mr. S. COPE, 9, New Road, Bexley Heath, Kent:
INDISPENSABLE—EVERYTHING WIFE PACKS.
Mr. EDWARD MCCABE, 4, Orchard Road, Dublin:
INDISPENSABLE—IN TUITION—INTUITION.
Mr. F. W. THOMAS, 10, Lithos Road, Hampstead, N.W.:
BORROWED PLUMES—SEASIDE HUNGARIAN? BAND.
Mr. J. MILLS, 16, East Street, Farnham, Surrey:
A MIRACLE—ARGUING POLITICS AMIABLY.
Mr. CLEMENT TOMPKINS, 38, High Street, Newport, I. of W.
MIXED BATHING—INCREASES "BANK INTEREST."
Mr. ARCHIBALD REID, 112, Kilbowie Road, Clydebank, near Glasgow:
MIXED BATHING—BOLDER BEHIND BOULDER.
Mr. RICHARD USHER, 31, Kenmare Rd., Sefton Pk., Liverpool:
INDISPENSABLE—"SCREW" AS "PROPELLER."
Mrs. H. TILLY, Redan Villa, Ventnor, Isle of Wight:
FLAMING JUNE—NURSERYMAN'S CATALOGUES ILLUSTRATE.
Mr. R. M. HUNTER, 22, St. Agnes Rd., Kirkdale, Liverpool:
CHANGING HER NAME—IRELAND TO "IRE"-LAND.
Mr. E. W. LEWIS, 56, Floating Bridge Road, Southampton:
BACK WATER—BEER HAS ARRIVED.
Mr. WALTER HARBUTT, 32, Liverpool Road, Islington, N.:
A WINNING SMILE—SPOILS UNDERTAKER'S MUTE.
Mr. WILLIAM OLIVER, 32, Lidfield Rd., Stoke Newington, N.:
RICH WIDOW—"WATCHES" THEN "CHAINS."
Mr. C. W. OUTRAM, 188, School Road, Sheffield:
CONFIDENCE TRICK—"ORCHARDS" FOR "FOURPENCES."
Mr. G. S. STEPNEY, Templeogue, co. Dublin, Ireland:
BETWEEN OURSELVES—SHYNESS OFTEN'S SLYNESS.
Mr. J. A. STEDMAN, 10, Warren Road, Reigate:
TAKING LESSONS—GOVERNMENT FROM OSTRICH.
Mrs. E. DAY, 21, Hardman Road, Kingston, Surrey:
RICH AND POOR—"NOTE" THE DISTINCTION.
Mr. F. J. PELLEY, 94, Gloucester Street, S.W.:
A MIRACLE—MONEYLENDER, "SAMPLES ENCLOSED."
Mr. T. W. HINCKLEY, 20, Wake Green Road, Moseley, B'ham:
A SOUND CONCERN—"STRAIT" SETTLEMENT COMPANY.
Mr. HAMISH VALENTINE, Engineer, Earls Colne, Essex:
FLAMING JUNE—FIRST AID, LEMONADE.
Mr. GEORGE WILDE, 335, Dumbarton Rd., Partick, Glasgow:
WE ALL SHOULD—"DEAL" WITHOUT "SHUFFLING."

"CONTINUOUS MERIT" PRIZES.

The following "Continuous Merit" prizes of £2:2:0 each are awarded this week.

BEARE, F. D., 46, Winchester Street, Andover.
BROWN, P. E., "Ivanhoe," Grange Avenue, Woodford Green.
CALVERT, C. E. H., 87, Market Street, Chorley, Lancs.
DAWSON, E. V., 74, Riggindale Road, Streatham, S.W.
FISHER, W. E., 1, St. John's Street, Scarborough.
FULCHER, C. A., H.M. Coast Guard, Clifden, Co. Galway.
GRIFFIN, J. J., 4, East Street, Albert Street, King's Lynn.
JOHNSON, R., 7, Tynemouth Road, Mitcham.
ROBERTS, F. N., 39, Beecholme Road, Upper Clapton, N.E.
SIMPSON, G. C., 19, George Street, Edinburgh.

LIST OF 100 5s. PRIZE-WINNERS. "BULLETS" COMPETITION NO. 37.

Abrams, A., 60, Argyle-st., Kettering.
Adams, W. B., 75, Shaw-rd., Deepfields, Bilston.
Allen, M., P.S. "Jupiter," G & S.W. Ry., Rothesay, N.B.
Bassett, L., 14, Kingsdown Parade, Bristol.
Bellamy, Miss E., 33, Stamford-st., Bradford.
Bethell, P., 21, Vanguard Villas, Keyham, Devonport.
Billingham, Mrs. A. E., 34, Heslop-st., Thornaby-on-Tees.
Bown, E. G., 5, Methuen-rd., Newport, Mon.
Brady, May, 4, Manor Mans., Holloway, N.
Brennan, Mrs., Farmley, Kilkenny, Ire.
Brunshill, A. T., Silverdale, Blundell-rd., Hightown, nr. Liverpool.
Burrows, W., 14, Denmark-rd., Whitworth Park, Manchester.
Cantrell, R., 29, Town-st., Tinsley, Sheffield.
Carroll, G., 45, Conway-rd., Cardiff.
Catt, S. J., 50, Belmore-rd., Eastbourne.
Chaplin, G. L., Southern Hospital, Dartford, Kent.
Christy, T., 28, Cliveden-rd., Wimbledon.
Cooper, W. R., 284, Newhall-lane, Preston.
Corbey, W. J., Morley House, Mansfield-rd., Nottingham.
Croft, Mrs. E., Shanks House, Wincanton, Som.
Croker, H. S., 122, Coldharbour-lane, Camberwell, S.E.
Crossley, Miss B., 56, North-ter., Birstall, Leeds.
Crouch, A., 26, Melbourne-rd., West Bridgford, Nottingham.
Curtis, G., 14, Falmar-rd., S. Tottenham
Dickson, A. H., Albany House, Galashiels
Dorling, F. W., The Stores, Old-rd., Clacton.
Draycott, F., 452, Hempshaw-lane, Stockport.
Dresser, T. E., 5, Langholm-cres., Darlington.
Edge, J., Hoscar Villa, Lathom, nr. Ormskirk.
Farnell, P., 126, Wellhead-lane, Perry Barr, Birmingham.
Finlayson, R., 14, Nelson-pl., Stirling.
Firth, J., 11, Plymouth-grove, Pellon-lane, Halifax.
Ford, H., 117, Chestnut-av., Walthamstow.
Frost, F. T., Weybourne, Norfolk.
Gibbes, Mrs., 25, Dover-st., Leicester.
Haggis, E. A., 270, Laburnum-grove, Portsmouth.
Ham, H. G., 96, Mitcham-rd., East Ham
Harmer, F., 34, Bell's Garden-rd., Peckham, S.E.
Harrison, W., 354, Hoe-st., Walthamstow.
Hawker, H. W., King's Teignton, Newton Abbot.
Heathcote, Mrs. H. J., 13, Amherst-cres., Barry Island.
Hood, G. W., 114, Watling-st., Bridgtown, Staffs.
Jenkins, E. F., 6, Magdala-rd., Gloucester.
Jones, T. O., 79, Pool-st., Carnarvon.
Kearney, P., 258, Cronberry, Cumnock
Keeble, P. L., 76, Conway-rd., Plumstead.
Kemble, G., 11, The Grove, Eltham.
Kilpatrick, J., 11, Cochran-st., Paisley
King, Florence, "Epernay" Priory, Taunton.
King, G. M., 127, Oakleigh Park Drive, Leigh-on-Sea.
Kleinheins, C. J., 32, Bridge-rd., East Ham, E.
Leonard, Margaret H., 1, Florence-place, Priory-rd., Tonbridge.
Lever, J. S., 21, Wadbrough-rd., Sheffield.
Lonergan, J., 368, Rotton Park-rd., B'ham.
Lupton, G., 41, Blandford-st., Sunderland.
Mallinson, P., The Fold, Netherton, Huddersfield.
Martin, G., 6, Northdale-rd., Frizinghall, Bradford.
Masterman, F. E., 37, Pond-st., Hampstead, N.W.
McCarthy, W., 90, Clifford-gdns., Kensal Rise, N.W.
McMenamy, Maggie, Blundell's Grange, Loughgall, Armagh.
McWhinnie, W., 17, Prince Edward-st., Crosshill, Glasgow.
Meek, F., Bellevue House, Alfred Hill, Bristol.
Moore, H., 75, Cornwall-rd., Bayswater, W.
Mudge, Mrs. A. E., Lister-rd., Norwich-rd., Ipswich.
Mullen, J., Oakmere, Potters Bar, N.
Neil, A. C., Rawzthorne, Walshaw-av., Colwyn Bay.
Officer, A., 10, College-st., Dumbarton.
Papps, G. J., 50, Essex-rd., Manor Park.
Pass, Elizabeth, 15, Tillington-st., Stafford.
Payne J., 3, Stretford-rd., St. George, Bristol.
Pearce, F. F., High-st., Wendover, Bucks.
Potter, Mrs. I., 30, Lightwoods Hill, Warley Woods, Birmingham
Powell, Mrs. M. E., 45, Gwendwr-rd., West Kensington, W.
Reid, W. W., Architect, Prestwick, N.B
Robb, Mrs. J. F., 5, Central-av., Cambuslang, nr. Glasgow.
Roberts, J. R., Four Lanes' End School, Millbrook, Plymouth.
Rogers, Annie, 12, Vaughan-av., Doncaster.
Russell, G., 14, Coolinge-rd., Folkestone.
Sensier, E. F., 19, Hill-av., Worcester.
Shaw, Mrs. H., Sunnyside, Clifford-rd., New Barnet.
Shaw, Asa, 758, Hollins-rd., Hollinwood, Oldham
Slater, P., Ashville, Farsley, Leeds.
Smith, S. A., 78, Fisherton-st., Salisbury.
Sparks, Mrs. B. B., 88, St. George's-sq., Belgravia, S.W.
Steele, Mrs. L., 11, Myrtle-rd., Wombwell, nr. Barnsley.
Studholme, J., 113, Great Ancoats-st., Manchester
Sutherland, H. C., Training Ship "Exmouth," off Grays, Essex.
Sutters, E. W., 40, Pellatt-grove, Wood Green, N.
Symes, P. E., 54, Dalmeny-rd., Tufnell Pk.
Taylor, G. E., High School (Staff), Middlesbrough.
Thoms, A., 90, Thornycroft-rd., Liverpool
Tomblin, C. H., The Haven, Grange-rd., Leigh-on-Sea.
Towers, R. J., 16, Henry-st., Cockermouth.
Tremain, J. J., 63, Wickham-st., Rochester, Kent.
Viveash, Mrs. H., Northleach, Glos.
Walton, W. H., 12, Albury Park-rd., Tynemouth.
Ward, Mrs. L., 41, Athelstan-rd., Hastings.
Wells, H., 29, Delhi-st., York-rd., N.
Wilson, W., 22, South Castle-st., Cullen, Banffshire, N.B.
Woodman, W. H., 1, Royal Parade, Burnham, Somerset.
Banks, M., Inglenook, Dunell-rd., St. Lukes, Jersey.
Barbor, Mrs. A. F., 34, Duke-st., Southport.
Barker, A. E., 142, Richmond-rd., Gillingham, Kent.
Barnes, H. M., 111, High-st., Weston, Bath.
Barrass, C., 74, Ashley-ter., Tyne Docks, South Shields.
Barry, Mrs. B., 51, Heaton Moor-rd., Stockport.
Bartlett, Wm. H., 159, Chippingham-st., Sheffield.
Barton, J., 5, Alderton-rd., Addiscombe, Croydon.
Basting, W. M., 711, Woodbridge-rd., Ipswich.
Batchelor, H. A., 3, Damers-rd., Dorchester.
Bate, F., Storekeeper, Dennis Motor Works, Guildford.
Battersby, Wm., 134, Aitkinhead-rd., Govanhill, Glasgow.
Baun, L., 20, Ladysmith-rd., Wealdstone.
Baxter, H., 8, Rippon-rd., Hillsboro', Sheffield.
Bayley, A. J., 99, Queen's Gate, S.W.
Bazett., H. Campbell, Calvert Cottage, Blundell-lane, Cobham.
Beare, F. Derwent, 46, Winchester-st., Andover.
Beaton, E., 2, School Cottages, Castle-st., Maesteg, Glam.
Beaven, Phyllis, 9, Elm Vale, Fairfield, Liverpool.
Bell, J., c/o 21, Helmingham-rd., Birkenhead.
Bendall, Nurse J., Fern Cottage, Goldthorn Hill, Wolverhampton.
Bennett, H. F., Sorting Office, E.C.D.O., G.P.O., London.
Bennett, Mrs. M., 142, Blythswood-rd., Goodmayes.
Bentley, R., 76, Grove pl., Dalton, Huddersfield.
Berry, G., 30, Birch-rd., Southville, Bristol.
Bethel, W., 172, Barton-lane, Eccles, Manchester.
Bevan, H., 26, Claremont-rd., Teddington.
Bingham, W. H., Almond Brook-rd., Standish, nr. Wigan.
Birch, Ada, The Cottage, Cong. Church, Dawes-rd., Fulham.
Bird, S., 3, Gardenia-rd., Bush Hill Park.
Bishop, J. A., 6, Binnie-st., Gourock.
Bisset, J., 15, Dragon Parade, Harrogate.
Blucker, C., 46, Conway-rd., Canton, Cardiff.
Blair, D., Junr., 4, North-st., Springburn, Glasgow.
Bloom, A., 350, Heneage-rd., Grimsby.
Bloomfield, W. G., 29, Tarnsworth-st., St. Helens.
Blood, Mrs. M. J., Morna Villa, Victoria-rd., Dalkey, Co. Dublin.
Bossley, Mrs. K. M., 17, Norland-rd. North, Notting Hill, W.
Boasley, R. T., 17, Norland-rd. North, Notting Hill, W.
Boggitt, J., 2 Mess, H.M.S. "Griffon," c/o G.P.O., London.
Bone, S. H., 30, Eardley-rd., Streatham.
Bonner, A. F., 2, Swan-st., Isleworth.
Booth, A. S., 15, Wakefield-rd., Ossett.
Bound, Joseph, Central Station, Swansea.
Bourhill, J., 11, Belfield-av., Musselburgh.
Bowlas, Miss B. L., 39, Shaw-rd., Shaw Heath, Stockport.
Bown, C., 23, Bayter-av., Southend-on-Sea.
Bradshaw, J. E., 103, Oxford-st., Old Trafford.
Brayshaw, A., 2, Norwood-bldgs., Bradford-rd., Shipley.
Breeze, L., 1, Water-lane, Stratford.
Brendel, J., Ashdown Park, Coulsdon.
Bridger, F. B., 147, Shirley-rd., Southampton.
Bridges, F., 56, Darnley-ter., Milton Regis.
Brindley, F., 86, South-rd., Handsworth, Birmingham.
Bringhurst, Miss H. F., 13a, Porchester-rd., Bayswater.
Bromley, J., Junr., 46, Stoke-rd., Stoke-on-Trent.
Brook, J. A., 20, Bridge End, Brighouse.
Brooks, G., 5, Harold Ville-av., S.C.R., Dublin.
Butler Bros., Messrs., 40, Flower Market, Covent Garden.
Brown, F., Northgreen, Westoe, South Shields.
Brown, R., 112, Newport-rd., Choriton-cum-Hardy.
Brown, C. H., 139, Marine Parade, Brighton.
Brown, H. E., 114, Grove-rd., Clapham Park, S.W.
Brown, Geo. F., "Royside," Hallowell-rd., Northwood.,
Buckley, W., Egerton Villa, Water-lane, Wilmslow.

Selection from List of 4,000 Special Prizes.

Bailey, W. H., 18, Burrows-rd., Willesden.
Bailey, Mrs. C., 10½, High-st., Portsmouth.
Bain, T., 20, Roman-pl., Roundhay, Leeds.

"BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Editor, and his special staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit. In deciding prizes, originality and aptness will be taken into account. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on page 34 and only two attempt may be written on each coupon.

3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed ——— & Co ———. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.

4. Coupons must not cut or defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.

5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, July 9th.

6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

7. The Editor's decision on any matter in dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Complete List of 1,000 Prize-winners of 2/6 each, and of all other Prize-winners in the above Competition can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices.

Racing Notes.

After Ascot comes a somewhat dull time till Goodwood, for it cannot be said that the two July meetings at Newmarket appeal much to the "vulgar herd" and even stay-at-home backers are chary about supporting horses at these meetings, the results as a general rule going against them.

Prophetic.

The big race of the week is Thursday's Princess of Wales Stakes, once a "ten thousand pounder," but now considerably reduced in value. Last year's winner, Lance Chest, is fancied again, but 10 st. 1 lb. seems a lot of weight for a horse of his calibre and a much more likely proposition is the selected of the Manton stable. This will probably be

PILLIWINKIE,

who on his Ascot form has a very big chance. To-day (Wednesday), for the Duke of Cambridge Handicap. Dorando, last year's winner, is much fancied again, whilst Cap and Gown is nicely handicapped. Perhaps the best to stand will be

SANTAIR,

who twice at Ascot showed us that he is a good horse, and he can't always be second. SWING CLEAR has twice recently come well out of trials and should now take the Soham Plate, whilst YOUNG PEGASUS and ALDFORD look really good things for their respective races.

HORNET'S BEAUTY will, of course, win the July Cup to-morrow (Thursday), when

COURAGEOUS*,

in the Exeter Stakes, must represent the best thing of the week. The Selling Plate of 400 sovs. will just suit PIGEON PIE.

On Friday, CABARET ought to take the Waterbeach Handicap; JOHN CHINAMAN the Ellesmere Stakes, and CARANCHO the Princess Plate.

Nothing looks good enough to recommend at Carlisle to-day, but at Worcester to-morrow, DARTOI and SOUTH PARADE should each win races, and on Friday DALY'S will want a deal of beating in the City Welter Handicap, despite his very big weight.

For the London Cup, at Alexandra Park, on Saturday,

MOHACZ

looks a good thing, but of course the price will be short. THUNDERSTONE should be worth an each way investment in the July Handicap and WESTPHALIA, if a runner, can win the Maiden T.Y.O. Plate.

"JOHN BULL" DERBY SWEEPSTAKE CHARITY FUND.

In addition to the £500 allocated by Mr. Patrick O'Brien to our "Human Document" fund, we have now received four further contributions of £25 each in favour of the Printers' Pension and Almshouses Corporation; the Lloyd Memorial Home; the Printers' Medical Aid and Sanatoria Association; and the Caxton Convalescent Home, which we have much pleasure in forwarding to those very praiseworthy institutions.

SPORTING REPLIES.

The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith.

LLOYD ST. LEGER SWEEPSTAKES.—BARRAC.—We certainly do not recommend.

ALBION BANK (Basle).—G. J. (Sheffield).—We are obliged to you for sending us the result sheet of these people's Royal Hunt Cup Sweepstake, and for calling our attention to the fact that in four cases the same number in the same series has drawn two prizes; but we have repeatedly described these people as "wrong 'uns," and are not surprised at anything.

THE TOTALISATOR (Lucerne, Switzerland).—W. T. B. (St. Albans).—You should apply to Mr. H. Cullerne-Bown, the Managing Director of the Totalisator, who will send you particulars.

SPORTING PROFIT.—B. W. (Salford).—We have only to repeat our frequent warning to have nothing to do with these people.

SMALLMAN AND TERRY.—H. W. (Reading).—Quite straight.

H. DIAMOND (Lucerne, Switzerland).—S. K. (Salisbury, Rhodesia).—Our representative has attended Mr. Diamond's Draws for some time past, and we are satisfied that everything is conducted on perfectly straightforward lines.

"JOHN BULL" DERBY SWEEPSTAKE.—F. N. (Cheshire).—All you have to do is to forward your ticket to Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Geneva, Switzerland, and you will receive your prize.

We have to repeat that we cannot undertake to adjudicate upon betting disputes except in cases where such disputes may be referred to us by arrangement between any of our advertisers and their clients.

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RIVOLI (14 pts.)

the Editor's sole selection for the Ascot Stakes.

Next Monday's issue of "Gale's Special," published at 2/6, will be sent post free in plain sealed envelope upon receipt of 1/- P.O. or Stamps to all readers of "John Bull" enclosing this paragraph.

Gale's Primus Wire

THE MOST SUCCESSFUL SERVICE EVER INAUGURATED.

The satisfaction of our PRIMUS WIRE subscribers still continues. Since the inauguration of this service on Wednesday, March 26th, when the first selection was sent out, subscribers have only received two losers out of the whole batch of Primus Wire selections, whilst, on the other side, they have received nine winners, the list being **PERSUADE, CARRIGRUE, MASTER MACDONALD, ARRIET, AMBASSADOR, OCYDROME, MEDIATOR, SANQUHAR,** and **ST. MERIADOC,** so that, deducting two points for the losses, there is still

More than 50 Points Clear Profit.

This PRIMUS WIRE SERVICE is the most successful service ever inaugurated, and as we have some Further Exclusive News for the Nottingham Meeting, on Tuesday next, July 8th, sportsmen who wish to join us on this occasion must send their remittance before eleven o'clock on Tuesday morning.

Should the selection sent out prove unsatisfactory we definitely guarantee to send a free TATTERSALL'S RING WIRE on the following day to all subscribers.

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As a Special Offer to "John Bull" readers we will send this Special Wire upon receipt of £10, instead of the usual charge of £25,

and unless the selection sent out is successful, and at reasonable odds, we guarantee to send you our Tattersall's Ring Wire entirely free of charge. On the other hand, should the selection win at the odds of not less than 8 to 1 against, subscribers will, of course, forward the balance of £15.

Note that our ONLY address is:—

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Signed by representatives of:—

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2 GOOD THINGS GOOD THINGS GOOD THINGS

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What is your Number?

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and PUBLISHED IN THE FOLLOWING ISSUE.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all the work done.

The following claims have been received:—

Mr. F. W. HAMPSON, 111, Choumert Rd., Peckham, S.E. June 14th. No. 274,067.

Mr. A. S. HINCHLEY, 58, Energy St., Newton, Manchester. June 7th. No. 493,520.

Mr. J. L. OWEN, 4, Garnault Place, Rosebery Avenue, E.C. June 7th. No. 703,512.

Mr. T. S. BLAND, 5, Mayfield Terrace, Mountfields, Shrewsbury. May 31st. No. 103,968.

Mr. W. EDGAR, 11, Newland Rigg, Gorebridge, Midlothian. June 7th. No. 499,173.

Mrs. J. MORGAN, 2, Millersdale Avenue, Aintree, Liverpool. June 7th. No. 126,515.

Mr. A. BURGOYNE, Holly Mount, Shavington, near Crewe. May 31st. No. 584,354.

Mr. J. BUCHANAN, 18, Aitkenhead Rd., Glasgow. June 7th. No. 546,205.

Mr. F. ROBERTS, 8, Radyr Rd., Llandaff North, S. Wales. June 7th. No. 344,251.

Mr. A. G. CALIP, 26, Prebend St., Camden Town, N.W. April 26th. No. 300,347.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of June 28th—

001828	187162	426287	612978	924190
030991	212900	436636	643765	945237
062548	234089	468210	681098	955887
084607	250940	494923	737736	967410
103379	259531	509913	757931	969312
126058	266578	537335	777257	970010
142391	269652	543343	806849	994213
163929	301651	547183	824190	A007538
158833	335691	562187	864692	A024762
166684	392991	588215	881556	A086513

The A prefixed to the drawn numbers indicates it is plus a million.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR NEXT ISSUE (PUBLISHED JULY 9TH).

JOHN BULL PEN COUPON. Value 1d.

By sending this Coupon with P.O. 2/6 and loose 1d. stamp for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a John Bull Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen. Additional Coupons up to 12 from "John Bull" or "Mary Bull," any dates, may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 1d. off the price. You may send 13 Coupons, and P.O. for 1/6 only and loose 1d. stamp for postage. Address Pen Dept., "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.

N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

The HOLIDAYS

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It gives a close, comfortable shave in marvellously quick time, no trouble to clean, no bars, plates, or screws to remove, and no adjustment required. Acquire the CLEMAK HABIT and your shaving becomes a pleasure.

CLEMAK Safety Razor 5/-

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NEW MODEL Set and Twelve Blades	7/6
COMBINATION OUTFIT, Stropping Machine, Velvet-hide Strop, with Clemak and Twelve Blades	10/6

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